

APU president arrives in Iraq

BAGHDAD (Petra). — Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) President Ali Al Salameh arrived here from Amman on Sunday heading an APU delegation on a several-day visit to Iraq. In a statement to the Iraqi News Agency, Mr. Salameh said his visit to Iraq comes within a tour of Arab countries for talks with heads of parliamentary councils to exchange views on Arab parliamentary issues and related developments. The APU president, accompanied by APU Secretary General Abdul Rahman Al Bou-rawi, paid a two-day visit to Jordan before arriving here. In Amman, he was received by His Majesty King Hussein and the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi and Mr. Akel Al Fayez respectively. The APU delegation also attended the opening on Saturday of the third ordinary session of the Jordanian Parliament.

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King, Mubarak exchange messages

AMMAN (J.T.) — Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh returned to Amman from Cairo on Sunday after delivering a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The message dealt with recent diplomatic and political contacts that Jordan made in the Arab and international scenes, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Mr. Abu Odeh told Petra upon his return that he was carrying a verbal message from President Mubarak to the King. He said the King's message to the Egyptian leader also dealt with Jordan's recent contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). In a related development, Dr. Osama Al Baz, a senior adviser to Mr. Mubarak, was quoted as confirming by the AP that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was expected to arrive in Cairo on Monday.

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Milhem welcomes King's call

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Palestinian leader has welcomed His Majesty King Hussein's call for the convening of an high-level Arab meeting to discuss the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories. Mohammad Milhem, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), told the Iraqi News Agency (INA) on Sunday that such a meeting, as proposed by the King in his speech from the Throne to Parliament on Saturday, is urgently needed and essential in view of the deteriorating situation in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Chinese minister ends visit

AMMAN (Petra). — Chinese Minister of Chemical Industries Jin Da left Amman on Sunday after a seven-day visit during which he was received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a number of senior Jordanian officials. In a departure statement Mr. Jin expressed his deep appreciation of Jordan's achievements under the leadership and guidance of His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan. He reiterated China's support for Arab rights, expressing his confidence in a bright future for Jordanian-Chinese cooperation.

Jordan cautions Palestinians working in Libya

AMMAN (Petra). — Palestinians employed in Libya have been advised by the Ministry of Interior not to return to Jordan if they want to keep their jobs there. A ministry spokesman said that the Libyan authorities have been turning away Palestinians who have valid resident and work permits to live and work in Libya but who had been away abroad for sometime. The ministry said that Jordan would approve of their coming here only on condition that they return to their jobs in Libya. Libya expelled thousands of Tunisian, Egyptian and Syrian workers in recent months.

S. Arabia plans to better Mecca facilities

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabia plans to improve facilities at the Holy City of Mecca under a 20-year plan, planning and development officials said Sunday. They said the plan, expected to be approved in January, entails building a 1.6 kilometre long pedestrian area around the Grand Mosque and constructing a central business district in the city. An earlier project to build four ring roads around the city has been incorporated into the master plan, the officials added.

3 injured in Tehran blast

TEHRAN (R) — A car bomb explosion in a north Tehran suburb on Sunday slightly injured two pedestrians, the official news agency IRNA reported. The bomb was the 13th such explosion reported in Tehran this year. The last bomb killed one person and injured 20 people in west Tehran.

Jordan will never substitute for Palestinians, King says

King, announcing Rifai will visit Damascus soon, expresses hope for Jordanian-Syrian summit

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday ruled out direct talks with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and stressed that Jordan could not be a substitute for Palestinians in Middle East peace talks.

"We can't speak of a comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem without the Palestinian participation as a prime party to the conflict on the Arab side," the King said in an interview on the "Meet the Press" programme of the American NBC Television network.

The King ruled out direct talks with Peres, who, in a major United Nations address last month, called for direct talks between Israel and Jordan or a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The King said this would not meet Jordan's goal of forging a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"We have always said that what we are after is a comprehensive peace, a peace that is part of a resolution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects and this cannot happen except in the context of an international conference," the King told the NBC interviewers, Tom Brakan and Rick Davis.

The King said Israel's military might and a sense of injustice by the Palestinian people posed major obstacles to efforts to find a comprehensive Mideast solution.

In answer to a question on Jordan's relations with Syria, the King said Jordan's policies have not been changed. Jordan always sought cordial and strong relations with all Arab countries, he said. There has been a "very sad period" in Jordan's relations with Syria, he said and expressed hope that this period was over. Recalling that Jordan and Syria held recently two meetings on the level

of prime ministers, the King said Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai would soon travel to Damascus for talks with Syrian leaders. The King expressed hope that Mr. Rifai's talks in Damascus would pave the way for a Jordanian-Syrian summit attended by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

In reply to a question on the recent talks he had with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, the King reiterated Jordan's commitment to the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement and said he told Mr. Arafat that the recent cycle of Mideast violence was a terrible setback to the Middle East peace process activated by the agreement.

The King said he told Mr. Arafat that the peace process was in

Israel reports diplomatic search for international framework for talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli officials said on Sunday diplomatic efforts were under way to set up an international framework where Israelis and a Jordanian-Palestinian team could hold direct peace talks.

A senior Israeli official, briefing journalists on condition he not be named, said U.S. officials were quietly trying to set up such a forum as one of several ways of pressing ahead with the peace process.

The main obstacles in diplomatic efforts remained the composition of the Palestinian team and the type of international forum in which to hold the talks, he said.

"We are at a stage where quiet diplomacy is of far greater importance than speeches on either side... we are seeing an intensification of U.S. involvement with almost daily close contacts between them and Israel, Jordan and Egypt," he said.

King Hussein, opening a new session of Parliament on Saturday, spurred Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' offer for direct peace talks by reiterating his call for a conference of all parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The U.S. State Department last week announced two appointments that signalled increased U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process. Morris Draper, a veteran diplomat who helped negotiate the 1979 Israel-Egypt treaty and the failed Israel-Lebanon troop withdrawal

agreement, was named U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem. He replaced Wat Cluervius, who became a senior policy adviser to U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy.

The U.S. effort was aimed at finding a multinational framework that would satisfy the Arab demand for an international conference and Israel's insistence on direct peace talks, the Israeli official said Sunday.

President Ronald Reagan's administration was grappling with the problem of finding Palestinian representatives for the talks since Israel refused to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), he said.

(Continued on page 3)

Mideast figures high in Zia's talks with Mubarak

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Middle East situation topped the agenda during 90 minutes of talks on Sunday between the presidents of Egypt and Pakistan, described by Pakistan's foreign minister as a milestone in relations between the two countries.

President Zai Ul Haq is on the first visit to Egypt by a Pakistani head of state in more than 20 years, and his foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, said it "marks a very important step, which will have far-reaching consequences."

He said General Zia and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak exchanged views on a wide range of issues including Lebanon. A

(Continued on page 3)

Karami predicts peace 'very soon' in Lebanon

DAMASCUS (AP) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami Sunday voiced hopes that a Syrian-sponsored peace treaty between militia chieftains will end Lebanon's decade-old civil war "very soon."

Mr. Karami spoke as senior representatives of Lebanon's militias met to put the finishing touches to the proposed accord after a weekend of intense political activity in Damascus.

Speaking to reporters before returning to Beirut, Mr. Karami hailed the draft treaty as "the introduction to Lebanon's salvation."

"I expect things to be ready very soon," he declared.

Mr. Karami's remarks mirrored widespread feelings that a peace accord under Syrian sponsorship is imminent.

His words also coincided with optimistic forecasts in the Syrian press. The government-controlled Al Baath newspaper said Sunday "the salvation of Lebanon is very

near."

The Lebanese battlefronts have been quiet for a week, with only sporadic fighting between units of the Lebanese Army and militiamen east of Beirut.

There has been no official announcement on when the peace treaty will be signed. Details of the pact also remain unknown.

But sources close to the negotiations said a key element is giving the majority Muslims, particularly the Shi'ites, an equal share of power.

Mr. Karami and Education Minister Salim Al Hoss, both Sunni Muslims, have asked to introduce unspecified "amendments and corrections" to the draft treaty.

"Most of our demands do not touch the core of the draft," Mr. Hoss told reporters.

Mr. Karami, who arrived in Damascus Saturday heading a delegation of Sunni Muslim leaders, wound up talks with Syrian

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Rockets fall in Israeli settlements

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Three rockets fired from Lebanon landed in northern Israeli settlements on Sunday, but did not cause any damage or injuries, military sources said.

The sources told the AP the rockets, which landed at about 1 a.m. (2300 GMT), may have been Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets. They declined to be named or to say why the type of rocket was not certain.

In keeping with army policy, the sources also declined to give the exact location of the explosions.

This is the 11th known rocket attack from Lebanese territory since Israel withdrew most of its troops on June 10. Israel still maintains hundreds of troops in Lebanon, as well as training and arming a proxy Lebanese militia which is in control of a border strip within Lebanese territory.

Sunday's incident ended a relatively quiet period in the area. Israel had claimed the goal of its invasion of Lebanon in June 1982 was to drive Palestinian commandos out of rocket range of its northern settlements.

In another incident on Sunday, a small bomb exploded near a high school in the central town of Afula, police said. It caused no casualties.

Five people were injured in Afula last month when a bomb exploded in a market.

Expulsions delayed

In another development on Sunday, Israel's Supreme Court ordered the occupation authorities to delay expelling four Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, saying it would consider their appeals. Israel Radio said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan confers with Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi (centre) in a meeting attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri on Sunday (Petra photo)

Klibi leaves after 3-day visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi left Amman Sunday at the end of a three-day visit to Jordan during which he was received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Mr. Klibi also met with Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and a number of senior government officials and attended the opening of the third session of Parliament on Saturday.

Mr. Klibi's talks here covered Arab affairs and current efforts to end differences among Arab countries as well as the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

The talks also touched on prospects for convening the next regular Arab summit and Arab cooperation.

Before his departure on Sunday, Mr. Klibi was received by Crown Prince Hassan. They made a general review of the Middle

East situation in general and the occupied Arab territories in particular, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. The agency said Mr. Masri attended the meeting.

Mr. Klibi was the guest of honour at a banquet hosted by Prime Minister Rifai Saturday evening. The banquet, held at the prime minister's residence, was attended by the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Jassam, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and heads of diplomatic missions and journalists.

A general discussion of the current Arab situation was made during the banquet, Petra said.

The Iraqi president was urging all Arab leaders to coordinate their stand in their appeals to Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev to seek a just and comprehensive Mideast solution based on U.N. resolutions pertaining to the Palestine problem, according to the

sources. The sources had earlier said that President Hussein had drawn up a memorandum to be sent to the Geneva summit and was circulating it among Arab leaders for endorsement.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz also paid a brief visit to Amman on Saturday and delivered to the King a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Petra said the message dealt with the current Arab situation.

Correcting earlier statements, well-informed sources said the Iraqi foreign minister was one of several Iraqi envoys now touring Arab states to coordinate the Arab position towards superpower involvement in the Middle East peace process. Iraq was seeking to convey a unified Arab position to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev when the two world leaders meet in Geneva on Nov. 19 and 20, the sources said.

Shultz, aides hold pre-Moscow talks

HELSINKI (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had talks in Finland on Sunday ahead of his visit to Moscow to prepare the ground for what President Ronald Reagan has called a fresh start in superpower relations.

Mr. Shultz consulted his top aides on meetings he will have with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in advance of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Geneva on Nov. 19 and 20.

He also had a one-hour session with Finnish President Mauno Koivisto.

Mr. Shultz is due to see Mr. Shevardnadze after his arrival in

Moscow on Monday and to meet Mr. Gorbachev on Tuesday.

Assistant Secretary of State Rozanne Ridgway told reporters that the two sides would not set out an agenda for the November summit but instead try to define a dialogue giving Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev the opportunity to make a new start in relations.

Ms. Ridgway avoided predictions of success in any specific area of superpower relations. She said the two leaders would examine the question of follow-up meetings but cautioned against the idea that summits might become an institution.

In an airhome news conference

en route to Helsinki on Saturday, Mr. Shultz acknowledged that Washington and Moscow were a considerable distance apart on the key issue of arms control.

But he said Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev would try to give a political impulse to negotiations under way in Geneva.

Mr. Reagan said publicly on Saturday for the first time that the United States accepted the central Soviet proposal for a 50 per cent reduction in long-range nuclear weapons (See page 8).

The United States has proposed a limit of 3,000 warheads on land-based missiles, compared with the Soviet offer of 3,600.

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Qaboos opens GCC summit in Muscat

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Sultan Jabooos Ibn Sa'ud of Oman opened the annual summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on Sunday with an appeal for Gulf countries to work together to fight terrorism.

Sultan Jabooos told the opening session of the summit, which also brings together leaders of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, that all countries in the Gulf share deep concern over "all aspects of terrorism."

"We also note the keenness of member states in coordinating their action to protect the region against symptoms of violence, terrorism and any other action which would detract from its security," Sultan Jabooos said.

"We reaffirm that it is extremely important to translate this action into firm solidarity which

safeguards the stability of our peoples and defends their gains and achievements against any challenges and dangers," he said.

The sultan also appealed for an end to the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

"We call upon the leaders of the two countries to show flexibility so as to open the way" for international and regional mediation, Sultan Jabooos said.

He urged the international community to exert greater efforts to end the war "which has lasted long enough and which by its continued escalation threatens the interests of the peoples of this region and exposes international peace to danger."

A security accord to counter attacks, such as an abortive assassination bid on the life of the

(Continued on page 3)

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Mubarak 'got little response' for reconciliation with Arabs

ABU DHABI, UAE (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in a television interview broadcast overnight Sunday, said that little response has resulted from the "endless efforts" he undertook for reconciliation with Arabs.

Mr. Mubarak told Abu Dhabi Television that he did not consider Egypt's relations with Israel as an obstacle for the proposed reconciliation.

Most of the Arab states severed relations with Cairo when it became the first Arab country to sign a peace accord with Israel in March 1979 under the framework of the U.S.-brokered Camp David accords. The second part of the tripartite U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli accord provided for autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but that part has not been implemented.

Mr. Mubarak argued that the rest of the Arab World had also opted for peace with Israel with the Fez peace plan pushed through at the 1982 summit conference in the Moroccan city.

"And now, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation

(PLO) are combining efforts to initiate talks on a peaceful settlement," Mr. Mubarak said and asked: "Why then should you object to Egypt's peace with Israel?"

The Egyptian president stressed that "no alternative Arab strategy had been proposed."

"No Arab leader has advised me to return to the state of war with Israel... and there is no one I know of who wants the state of war to be resumed between Egypt and Israel. Why then should Egypt's relations with Israel impede Arab-Egyptian reconciliation," he added.

The Egyptian president also argued that the Camp David treaty has "harmful no one."

"Camp David had two sides to it: One which dealt solely with Egypt's Israel relations — and we got Sinai in return. All that happened is that we exchanged embassies (between Egypt and Israel).

As for the other part of the treaty, he said, Egypt rejected the Israeli interpretation of autonomy for the Palestinians.

Mr. Mubarak reiterated his view that efforts for a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict without the PLO participation would lead nowhere.

"The same tensions will remain unresolved," he said.

Meanwhile a senior Egyptian official, in an interview published in Kuwait Sunday, urged Israel to respect human rights if it wished to win the hearts of the Egyptian people.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, told Al-Jahaz newspaper that Israeli officials had complained of a lack of sympathy among the Egyptian people.

"They know the way to Egyptian hearts is to improve living conditions in occupied lands, stop violating human rights and abandon their collective punishment policy of removing houses and arresting people, and setting up



Hosni Mubarak

settlements," he said.

Dr. Ghali voiced confidence that Egypt and the United States would surmount what he called "a genuine and deep crisis" over the U.S. interception last month of an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro.

The political will existed in both Cairo and Washington "to maintain relations and cooperation," he said.

Asked about prospects of Egypt, returning to the Arab fold, he said: "I have trust in our country and the ability and wisdom of the Arab leaders to overcome differences, and to cooperate and preserve the Arab nation."

U.S. to start 'covert action against Qadhafi'

WASHINGTON (R) — The Washington Post said Sunday President Reagan had authorised a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) covert operation designed to undermine the Libyan regime headed by Col. Muammar Qadhafi.

The newspaper said the covert plan was aimed at stopping anti-Western subversion backed by Col. Qadhafi and not to attempt to bring about his assassination.

It said the plan, involving CIA assistance to another country or countries in North Africa and the Middle East which might oppose

Col. Qadhafi, had run into initial resistance in Congress.

The Post said that heads of the House and Senate select subcommittees on intelligence had written to Mr. Reagan outlining some opposition to the covert operation, but both panels were so far, on balance, in favour of the scheme.

It said Secretary of State George Shultz appeared before the House committee as recently as last week to outline the plan and call for congressional support.

It said the plan was designed to pre-empt and frustrate Col. Qadhafi's subversive schemes and also to lure him into some foreign adventure which might lead to his overthrow at home.

Another aim was to try to give Col. Qadhafi's neighbours, such as Algeria or Egypt, a justification for responding to his subversive interference militarily.

The Post said that after four and a half years of ineffective economic sanctions against Libya the administration had decided that Col. Qadhafi was such an international menace to U.S. interests that covert action should be undertaken.

The U.S. also asked Italy to detain Abu Abbas, who was on the same flight, accusing him of masterminding the hijacking and the killing of Leon Klinghoffer.

Italian authorities allowed Abu Abbas to leave for Yugoslavia, drawing protests from Washington and causing the collapse of the Italian government when the pro-Israeli Republican Party pulled out of the ruling coalition.

Sicilian magistrates later issued a warrant for the arrest of Abu Abbas but Italy's supreme court ruled last week that Genoa should have sole charge of the investigation.

The court said the Sicilian warrant should be considered valid but legal sources said the Genoa magistrates could decide to uphold or withdraw it.

Italy identifies PLF aide as hijack leader

GENOA, Italy (R) — Italian magistrates have named the man they believe directed the hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise liner, the Italian news agency ANSA said Sunday.

ANSA quoted sources close to the Genoa magistrates' office as saying he had been identified as Masar Kadia, regarded as the right-hand man of Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) leader Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas).

The magistrates believed Mr. Kadia, whose whereabouts are unknown, had directed the four PLF members accused of seizing the Italian ship and killing an American passenger, the sources said.

The four men are in Italian custody.

Mr. Kadia, who posed as a Greek ship-owner using a stolen

passport, had taken two previous cruises on the Achille Lauro.

On Oct. 3 he boarded the ship again at Genoa, disembarking with other passengers going on a land tour at Alexandria, Egypt, four days later, on the evening before the hijack, ANSA said.

Italian state television RAI said Mr. Kadia, who used the name "Petros Floros," had stayed in a Genoa hotel for several days before the Oct. 3 cruise.

The four PLF members alleged to have held 427 passengers and crew hostage for two days surrendered to Egyptian authorities.

They were arrested after a plane carrying them from Egypt towards Tunisia was hijacked and forced to land in Sicily by U.S. fighters.

GCC was formed after start of Gulf war

MUSCAT (R) — The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) was formed in 1981 by six Arab states in the Gulf — Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

Milestones in the short history of the GCC.

March 10, 1981, Muscat — Six months after start of Iran-Iraq war and 16 months after the Soviet move into Afghanistan, foreign ministers agreed on proposed constitution for GCC.

May 25, 1981, Abu Dhabi — Heads of state sign constitution establishing GCC.

June 1981 — Finance ministers draw up economic cooperation agreement covering investment, abolition of customs duties, petroleum, banking regulations and an eventual common currency.

November 1981 — Heads of state at second summit in Riyadh agree to include defence cooperation in GCC activities.

November 1982 — The third GCC summit in Bahrain fails to agree on unified internal security pact as Kuwait objects to clause allowing police or military to pursue suspects into neighbour states.

Agrees to set up Gulf Investment Corporation, based in Kuwait with capital of \$2.1 billion.

March 1983 — New regulations allow free movement of workers between member states.

October 1983 — Joint military exercises held in the United Arab Emirates. Air and naval exercises follow in 1984.

November 1983 — Fourth summit in Doha calls for end to Gulf war, pushes bid to effect a ceasefire among rival Palestinian factions in north Lebanon.

December 1983 — Gulf industry ministers decide on joint negotiations with European Community on free access of Gulf petrochemical exports to Europe.

June 1984 — Attacks on oil tankers by both sides in Gulf war prompt emergency meetings by foreign and oil ministers.

November 1984 — Gulf leaders at fifth summit in Kuwait agree to form a united defence force with unified command.

The Gulf war between Iran and Iraq was a stimulus for the formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in 1981 and remains the overriding concern for the sixth summit opening on Sunday.

The leaders of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman see the war as a constant source of instability and tension in the region and are likely to renew their call to end the conflict.

They are also expected to give high priority to defence and security arrangements among their GCC states.

Gulf diplomats said the summit would also discuss Saudi-led efforts to reach a greater consensus among Arab states on political issues.

Profiles of the six leaders follow:

King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz, Saudi Arabia:

Took the reins of power three years ago when the kingdom was uneasy with an Islamic revolution which toppled the monarchy in Iran and a world glut was depressing oil prices.

Hostages did not know of Katkov's death

MOSCOW (AP) — Three Soviets who were held hostage by an Islamic faction in Beirut said in an interview that they didn't know a fellow countryman had been killed by the captors until they were freed.

The three were released this week and apparently remain in Beirut, Lestavia, the government newspaper, carried an interview with them that it said was conducted by its correspondent in Beirut Saturday.

Arkady Katkov, a consular secretary, was killed on Oct. 2 and his body left in a garbage dump in south Beirut. A pro-Syrian newspaper in Beirut said he was shot because he tried to escape. Lebanese coroners said he died of a single shot in the head, and that there were other bullet wounds on his body.

The other Soviets kidnapped were press attache Oleg Spirin, commercial attache Valery Mirkov and embassy physician Nikolai Sversky. The kidnappings occurred on Sept. 30.

Investigator Mr. Spirin and Mr. Mirkov were abducted in another district of Beirut.

Poll shows Peres popularity highest

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres enjoys the highest popularity he has been accorded by any poll since taking office 13 months ago, an Israeli newspaper reported Sunday.

The daily Haaretz said that a public opinion survey conducted last week gave Peres 67.2 per cent of support, compared with 40.5 per cent in October 1984 and 55.4 per cent in September 1985.

The poll appears to reflect growing support for Peres' efforts to

advance direct peace talks with Jordan, amid opposition from right-wingers in his government.

The poll, conducted for Haaretz by the P.O.R.I. Public Opinion Agency, also showed an increase in the popularity of Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who got 69.1 per cent of support compared with 60.9 per cent in September.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud Bloc, was accorded 43.1 per

cent compared with 38.5 per cent in September, Haaretz reported.

The poll was conducted among 1,200 Israeli Jews, taking into account a three per cent margin of error.

Meanwhile, a leading member of Peres' Labour Party said that his calculations show the premier could count on the support of several small religious and left-wing parties for a ruling majority in parliament.

Israeli farmers block Jordan River bridges

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli farmers from the occupied Golan Heights and Jordan Valley Sunday blocked bridges across the Jordan River in protest against government failure to aid their debt-ridden settlements.

Police removed tractors and farm vehicles obstructing roads to the bridges and arrested 50 demonstrators, state radio reported.

Syrian forces outnumber Israelis by nearly 3-1

By David Grant

LONDON — Syria has nearly doubled its armed forces in the past two years, a report published here says, and the Syrians now have almost three times as many men in their regular army as Israel.

The annual Survey of Military Balances says the Syrian combined regular forces have jumped from 220,000 in 1983 to 402,000 today. Israel has 142,000 troops in its regular forces, the Institute of Strategic Studies report states.

Syria also has 4,200 tanks to Israel's 3,600.

Only in combat aircraft does Israel still have a numerical advantage — 684 planes to Syria's 500.

Numbers apart, the report states, Israel continues to maintain its technical superiority over any Arab country. But, it warns, the emergence among Lebanese commando groups of the myth that the Israeli army was defeated and driven out of Lebanon bodes ill for Israel.

The report gives a detailed breakdown of each country's military strengths, gleaned from official and other sources. Based on the reputation of the institute, its assessments are usually accepted as fairly accurate. Israel is listed as able to call on some 370,000 reservists to bolster its regular forces.

The Israeli ground forces are said to consist of 104,000 troops, and some 400,000 upon mobilisation of reserves.

The navy has 10,000 and another 10,000 ready for mobilisation; while the air force has 28,000 personnel with 37,000 mobilised when needed, the institute says.

Its tank strength is principally made up of Centurions — about 1,100 M-60s (1,210 listed) and M-48s (600). Israel has also deployed 250 of its own Merkava tanks and has the use of 400 T-54s, T-55s and T-62s. A further, undisclosed number of Merkava tanks are on order, the report adds.

The Jordanian contribution to the front-line Arab forces is much smaller than that of Syria, the report says. Its 70,300 armed forces are divided among the army of 62,750 soldiers, air force of 7,200, and naval coast guard of 350.

The institute says that Jordan has 795 tanks and 121 combat aircraft. The bulk of its air force is made up of F-5s and variants of that plane. 68 aircraft in all. Jordan also possesses 35 Mirage F-1s.

Saudi Arabian armed forces total 62,500 — an army of 35,000 men, 3,500 in the navy and 14,000 serving in the air force. The Saudis have 450 tanks.

The Saudi air force has 205 combat aircraft, with F-5s and F-15s as the principal components. The Saudis also have four AWACS planes bought from the U.S.

Israel's air force, according to the institute consists of 46 F-15s, 131 F-4s, 150 F-16s and 67 F-16s. Awaiting delivery are a further five F-15s, 75 F-16s and 60 F-16s.

Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, therefore, have a combined total of 826 aircraft, against Israel's 684. The three states have 5,445 tanks, easily outnumbering Israel's 3,600.

The institute reports that the Middle East and North Africa remain the largest importers of weapons, though most of this is due to the continuing war in the Gulf and the conflicts in Lebanon, Chad and the Western Sahara.

Iran, the institute suggests, received arms from Israel, North Korea and Eastern Europe, and bought material on the open market in Western Europe. Chinese weapons had also been found in

Iranian service. Iraq, on the other hand, had received arms from Egypt, the Soviet Union, China, North Korea, France, Portugal and Brazil.

Between them, Middle Eastern and North African countries are said to have spent \$82 billion on military items in 1984, an increase of approximately \$10 billion over the previous year. Thirty-five per cent of the total was spent by the Gulf Cooperation Council, 18 per cent by Egypt, Israel, Syria and Lebanon, and 42 per cent by Iran and Iraq.

U.S. aid to Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Lebanon totalled over \$3.2 billion — 48 per cent of all U.S. military aid.

Israel's defence expenditure as a percentage of government spending fell from 37 per cent in 1982 to 24.9 per cent in 1983. Syria's military outlay fell in the same period, from 30 per cent of government spending to 28 per cent.

In dollar terms, Saudi Arabia was the largest military spender, \$21.8 billion in 1983. Next that year was Iraq with \$17.4 billion and Iraq with \$10.3 billion while Israel in 1983 spent nearly \$5.8 billion and Syria \$2.8 billion. The figure for Jordan was \$541 million — The Jerusalem Post.

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TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111	
MAIN CHANNEL 17:00 Koran 17:20 Cartoons 17:30 Children's Programmes 18:25 Different Stories 18:50 A special programme on World Tourism Day 19:30 Tomorrow's programmes and Varieties 20:00 News in Arabic 20:40 Aabic Series 21:45 Programme Review and Varieties 22:00 Arabic Film 23:00 News in Arabic 23:10 Film Continued FOREIGN CHANNEL 18:00 Virre au pays 18:30 News in Arabic 19:20 Magazine Sportif 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News Summary 20:30 Three Up Two Down 21:10 Bengelat 22:00 News in English 22:30 Benjamin Franklin - Part II	
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 9560 KHz, SW Tel: 774111-19	
07:00 Light Music 07:30 News 07:45 Morning Show 08:00 News Summary 10:05 Pop Session 12:00 News Summary 12:45 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 13:45 Pop Session 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 News Summary 14:15 Over a Cup of Tea 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instrumentals 16:30 Old Favourites 17:00 The 15th Century A.H. 17:30 Pop Session 18:00 News Summary 18:45 Sports Round-up 18:15 Special Feature 19:00 News Bulletin 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:45 Evening Show 22:00 Evening Show	
BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Empire of the Sun 06:45 Music 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:20 Twenty-Four Hours 07:30 Newsdesk 07:45 Recording of the Week 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 A World in Edgeways 09:00 World News 09:20 Twenty-Four Hours 09:30 Newsdesk 09:45 World News 10:00 World News 10:15 The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole 10:30 Pictures 11:00 World News 11:20 News 11:35 Good Books 11:50 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 People's Choice 12:00 News Summary 12:15 Science in Action 12:30 Mainstream 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 Development '85 13:30 Album Time 14:00 Radio Newsdesk 14:15 Just a Minute 14:30 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 Twenty-Four Hours 15:15 News Summary 15:30 America at the Proms 16:00 Outlook 16:40 John Arlott's Poetry Book 17:00 Radio Newsdesk 17:15 A World in Edgeways 17:45 Wines of the Great Composers 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Behind the Universe 18:30 The Classical Clarinet 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Book Choice 19:15 A Future for the Past 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Kippas 21:00 Outlook 21:45 People's Choice 22:00 World News 22:20 Twenty-Four Hours 22:30 News Summary 22:45 International 23:00 News Summary 23:05 U.K. 23:15 The classical Clarinet 23:30 Rock Salad 24:00 World News: The World Today 00:25 Book Choice 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Behind the Universe 1:30 Just a Minute VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260 & SW 1290, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 13210 KHz 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning News Summary 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 World Report	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS * The first painting exhibition by artist Ibrahim Hiyat at the Housing Bank Complex (until Nov. 15). * A book exhibition at Yarmouk University. * The first exhibition of Fresco paintings at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Nov. 9). * Soviet book exhibition at the Holiday Inn Hotel (until Nov. 11). * A charitable bazaar at the Chidambaram Charitable Society for Women in Sweden (until Nov. 5). * An art exhibition by British artist Martin Savage at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Gallery. FEATURE FILM "Overlord" at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the British Cinema. FESTIVAL * Children book festival at the General Library in Jerash. VIDEO "Allo tu m'en tends?" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267 American Centre - 644371 British Council - 6361478 French Cultural Centre - 637009 Goethe Institute - 641993 Soviet Cultural Centre - 644203 Spanish Cultural Centre - 634049 Turkish Cultural Centre - 634777 Haya Arts Centre - 665195 Hussein Youth City - 6671816 Y.W.C.A. - 641793 Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251 Amman Municipal Library - 637111 University of Jordan Library 843555 MUSEUMS Follies Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics	
CHURCHES St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibeh, 637440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 678906. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751. American International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiye, 677534. Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Samir), Tel: 81295. Rainbow Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 663249. PRAYER TIMES 06:32 (Sunrise) Fajr 05:15 (Sunrise) Duha 11:20 Dhuhr 14:23 'Asr 16:44 Maghreb 18:06 Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

JUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Jueen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:35	.....	Kuwait (RU)
09:45	.....	Cairo (RU)
09:45	.....	Muscat, Dubai (RU)
09:45	.....	Agaba (RU)
10:00	.....	Damascus (RU)
10:40	.....	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RU)
12:05	.....	Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
13:35	.....	Dharan (TK)
13:45	.....	Kuwait (KU)
16:05	.....	Cairo (RU)
16:45	.....	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
17:15	.....	Baghdad (IA)
18:15	.....	Casablanca, Tunis (RU)
18:45	.....	Beirut (ME)
18:45	.....	Baghdad (IA)
20:20	.....	Cairo (RU)
20:25	.....	Baghdad (RU)

DEPARTURES

06:45	.....	Damascus, Athens (OA)
06:45	.....	Alqso, Frankfurt (LH)
07:30	.....	Agaba (RU)
11:15	.....	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RU)
11:30	.....	Larnaca, Paris (RU)
12:05	.....	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RU)
13:30	.....	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
14:25	.....	Istanbul (TK)
15:00	.....	Kuwait (KU)
16:40	.....	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
18:30	.....	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	.....	Kuwait (RU)
19:40	.....	Dharan (TK)
19:45	.....	Bahrain, Doha (GF)
20:40	.....	Damascus (RU)
20:10	.....	Baghdad (IA)
20:15	.....	Jeddah (RU)
20:45	.....	Cairo (RU)
21:15	.....	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RU)
20:05	.....	Cairo (RU)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Agaba port:

- Tobolic
- Brave Spirit
- Alkibar
- Ibn Malek

Amn Kewar and Sons Company, Tel: 62324-9 at your service.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair. Some medium and low clouds will appear, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Low-high temperature in deg. C

Amman	11/24
Agaba	17/30
Damascus	11/26
Jordan Valley	17/33

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 28, Agaba 28. Hottest readings: Amman 34 per cent, Agaba 41 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates

Local selling rates in fitts

Bahraini dinar	985	1000
British guinea	127.51	128.5
Egyptian guinea	2201	227
French franc	47.21	47.6
Irani ryal	361.1	367
Japanese yen (for 100)	179.3	180.7
Kuwaiti dinar	1267.1	1282
Libanese lira	211	24
Omani ryal	108.5	1092
Jatari ryal	102	104
Saudi ryal	102	104
Swedish crown	47.41	47.8
Swiss franc	175.64	176.8
Syrian lira	259	31
UAE dirham	101	103
U.K. sterling pound	538.2	542.5
U.S. dollar	372.9	376
W. German mark	143.9	145.1

NEWS IN BRIEF

King honours Turkish envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred the Jordanian Independence Medal of the First Order on Mr. Resat Arim, Turkey's ambassador to Jordan, who has now been transferred to another post. The medal was presented to the outgoing ambassador by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri at a luncheon banquet held in the envoy's honour Sunday. The minister paid tribute to Jordanian-Turkish relations and the ambassador's role in promoting these ties. The ambassador, in his reply speech, voiced gratitude to King Hussein for the medal and praised bilateral relations.

Zarqa to spend JD 13.87m in next 5 years

ZAR JA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality announced Sunday that it will spend JD 13.87 million over the coming five years to develop the city and its services. Chairman of the municipality committee Mohammad Al Daba'i said that JD 9.67 million will be spent on services and the rest on development projects during the coming five year plan. He said that the plan includes purchasing land for car parks, building gardens and a cultural centre, a JD 1 million sports city, opening roads and building a slaughter house.

Committee prepares for winter

AMMAN (Petra) — Contingency measures for winter especially the provision of food supplies, first aid centres and oil, were the topic of discussion during a meeting Sunday of the civil defence committee for Amman Governorate. The meeting, chaired by Amman Governor Ali Bashir, also discussed the formation of voluntary committees and the role of charitable societies in supplying clothes when needed. It was decided to set up a main operations room at the Amman suburbs police directorate.

Haj Hassan opens charity bazaar

SWEILEH (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan Sunday opened at the Shishan charitable society for women a charity bazaar which will last for three days. The bazaar, which is being held in the course of the country's celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday, displays Shishan clothing, home appliances and artificial flowers. The society's president presented a briefing on the bazaar and the various items on display.

VTC director returns from Bahrain

AMMAN (Petra) — Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Director General Munther Al Masri returned from Manama, Bahrain, Saturday after taking part in a seminar on training for the oil industry held by the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC). Dr. Masri presented a working paper on the selection and qualification of trainers in his capacity as one of three experts invited for this purpose.

Water colours of Petra go on display

AMMAN (Petra) — An exhibition of paintings by British artist Martin Savage was opened Sunday at the gallery of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. On display at the week-long exhibition are 30 paintings of the main landmarks in the historical city of Petra and the surrounding area. Mr. Savage paid two visits to southern Jordan in July and September and he is specialised in water colours. He now lives in Cairo after a four-year stay in Jordan.

Court sentences man for acquiring drugs

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Salameh Suleiman Haq to six months in prison and fined him JD 50 for the acquisition of drugs. The general military governor endorsed the sentence.



Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi receives the European Parliament's political committee rapporteur Mrs. Gisèle Charazade for talks on Middle East development (Petra photo)

National park to open on King's 50th birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman National Park will be formally opened at a celebration on Nov. 14 to mark His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday, according to Amman Municipality.

Mr. Hisham Al Omari, from the municipality's department in charge of parks and gardens and director of the new park, said that the creation of the new park, located off the Queen Alia International Airport highway, will provide a recreational area for families and children.

The park, situated some eight kilometres away from the Seventh Circle in Jabal Amman, has been provided with running water and sanitation facilities and will shortly be supplied with electricity, telephones and a cafeteria, Mr. Omari said.

He went on to say that the total area of the park is 2,000 dunums covered with pine trees making the area ideal for outings, especially for children who will be able to play on swings, see-saws and other facilities at the site.

The section of the park which will be formally opened on Nov. 14 lies on the right hand side of the road, and the municipality is now organising the left hand side of the park which is to be opened to the public at a later date, Mr. Omari added.

Also on the King's 50th birthday, the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA), in cooperation with the cultural centres, and the municipality in Jerash, will hold a children's book exhibition



on Monday Nov. 4. The exhibition, at the public library in Jerash, will also present film shows for children and there will be a special wing selling books at reduced rates.

Charity bazaar

In Amman, 17 charitable and voluntary societies said they will hold a charity bazaar organised by the Department of Social Development in Amman Governorate and the Amman Chamber of Industry to mark the King's birthday.

Mr. Mohammad Falah, Director of the Social Development Department, said that the bazaar, to open on Thursday, will display a variety of artificial flowers, embroideries, clothing and knitwear as well as paintings prepared by charitable societies. The proceeds from the event will benefit these societies' activities and programmes, he added.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Falah said that his department will

suggest to the Ministry of Labour and Social Development that the department organises a permanent exhibition of charitable societies' products to help market them in the country and to boost the work of these societies in helping needy families.

The Department of Social Development in the Amman region this year offered JD 110,000 to 850 needy families in Amman and conducted studies and surveys on handicapped children prior to referring them to specialised rehabilitation centres, Mr. Falah said.

In Mafrag, it was announced Sunday that arrangements have been made for holding celebrations marking the King's 50th birthday. Mafrag Governor Khaled Al Bawazir said the celebrations will last 10 days and will include an art and folklore festival and book exhibitions. Also, a number of new projects and roads will be opened on the occasion, he added.

The University of Jordan has also arranged a programme to celebrate the King's birthday. The nine-day programme includes scientific seminars on eyes surgery, the development of education, law and the pharmacy profession during the King's reign. Lectures will also be delivered in the programme to highlight Arab life and Islamic civilisation under the Kingdom's founder His Majesty King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein. The new premises for the university's Faculty of Physical Education will be opened during the celebrations.

House speakers call on European parliament to support peace initiatives

AMMAN (J.T.) — The speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Sunday called on the European parliament to increase its efforts in trying to secure a just and durable solution for Middle East problems in general and for the Palestinian cause in particular.

Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and Speaker of the Lower House Akef Al Fayed made their calls during separate meetings with the European parliament's political committee rapporteur, Mrs. Gisèle Charazade, who is currently on a fact-finding mission in the Middle East.

Mrs. Charazade, who arrived in Amman Friday, met with His Majesty King Hussein Saturday evening.

Mr. Lawzi told Mrs. Charazade that he believes European parliament members, many of whom have toured the area on fact-finding missions, can perform an effective role in helping to find a just, permanent and peaceful settlement to the Palestine cause.

The Senate speaker said that the Palestine problem has always been the core of all political conflicts in the Middle East. "Unless a quick solution is found, the region will remain in constant turmoil," Mr. Lawzi stressed.

Citing other examples which have impeded the process of achieving peace in the area, Mr. Lawzi told Mrs. Charazade of Israel's settlement policies and the occupation authorities' arbitrary

measures imposed on all Palestinians living in the West Bank.

He also pointed out the constant struggle for freedom carried out by all Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and he compared their struggle for liberation with the struggle of the French people during the Second World War when they were under Nazi occupation.

Mr. Lawzi also explained to his guest the harmony which characterises the relationship between Jordan's legislative and executive powers in line with the country's constitution.

Mr. Fayed, who was reelected as Lower House speaker Saturday after parliament officially reconvened, also received the European parliamentarian and explained the active role and initiatives taken by King Hussein, as part of his constant efforts to try and secure a just and lasting solution to the Middle East question.

He also explained the basis of the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in trying to seek a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem. Mr. Fayed pointed out the im-

portance of convening an international peace conference under U.N. auspices with the participation of the five U.N. permanent members, Jordan, the PLO and all sides in the Middle East conflict. Mr. Fayed cautioned that if the international peace conference fails to convene and if the Feb. 11 accord does not receive enough support to end the state of stagnation in the area "both Middle East peace and the world peace could be endangered."

Mr. Fayed went on to say that the constant political, military and economic support extended by the U.S. to Israel is another serious obstacle hindering any peace efforts in the area and he reiterated his call on the European parliament to pressure the United States to adopt a more even-handed foreign policy in the Middle East.

The Lower House speaker also expressed his appreciation for the due attention given by the European parliament to the Middle East and he noted that numerous European parliamentarians have toured the Middle East on fact-finding missions.

Mrs. Charazade was also received by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an, who outlined the arbitrary measures practiced by the Israeli occupation authorities against West Bank citizens. "The Israeli authorities are constantly violating all international laws on human rights," Dr. Kana'an said.

Chinese team concludes talks on trade

AMMAN (JNA) — Chinese Minister of Chemical Industries Jin Da left Amman Sunday at the end of a week-long visit to Jordan during which he led his country's side in the meetings of the Jordanian-Chinese joint committee.

In a statement to reporters prior to his departure, Mr. Da said that the committee's meetings yielded positive results which contributed towards strengthening relations and increasing opportunities for trade exchange between the two countries. He also pointed out that China has agreed to import additional quantities of Jordanian

phosphates, potash and fertilisers.

It was also agreed to consider a joint Jordanian-Chinese project for the potash industry and to study the possibility of Chinese contributions to a number of Jordanian projects, the minister said. Mr. Da added that the joint committee's next meeting will be held in Beijing during the next year.

During his visit to Jordan, the Chinese minister met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a number of senior Jordanian officials with whom he discussed means to further bolster bilateral cooperation between Jordan and China in industrial,

economic and trade fields.

Before the Chinese delegation left for home, Mr. Da and Planning Minister Abdullah Nsour signed minutes of their talks which expressed the desire of both sides to cooperate in technology, science and the exchange of experts and technicians in building roads, bridges and airports and industrial complexes.

In the minutes both sides expressed their willingness to launch joint ventures and the Chinese side said it would cooperate in helping Jordan develop its potash industry, shale oil and would also promote its sports facilities.

'Jordan will never substitute for Palestinians'

(Continued from page 1)

danger unless "we put our act together."

The King and Mr. Arafat met in Amman last week to discuss the latest cycle of violence that began in September with the killing of three Israelis in Cyprus, followed by an Israeli air attack on PLO headquarters and culminating in the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro by Palestinians believed to be members of a PLO faction.

"I believe it was our mutual view that some of these actions represented terrible setbacks and if anyone suffered, the Palestinian image and the Palestinian dimension was adversely affected more than any," the King said on Sunday.

"We have looked at where we stand right now and it's obvious to me and to him (Mr. Arafat) that

"we have to put our act together once and for all," the King said. "We have to know where we stand and where we are going," he said. "It's obvious that for the PLO to partake in the peace process for the future... then they obviously have to determine what actions they are to take to enable them to play their part — and I'm expecting some answers soon."

The King said the PLO had accepted pertinent U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Middle East and said: "(U.N. Resolutions) 242 and 338 have been discussed time and again between us and the PLO and it is obvious to me that the PLO accepts all pertinent security resolutions as they affect the Palestinian problem."

The King said that if Israel accepts the Arab call for an international conference to reach a Middle East peace settlement, recognition of Israel by the PLO

might follow.

"As the international conference idea gets and we come to the reality, I see such a move by the PLO," the King said.

The King criticised a recent U.S. Senate decision barring the sale of \$1.9 billion in sophisticated armaments to Jordan until the Kingdom begins direct negotiations with Israel.

"We will be looking to the Soviet Union and others for a way to determine in our own minds where we go from here if Washington, after 28 years of a relationship with our military, has decided to put an end to it," the King said.

The King said he will wait until a delegation of Jordanian military officers returns from a series of meetings in Washington before making a decision on where to get the arms. But he said Jordan will not wait long.

"We are certainly going to have to look for what we need, for our legitimate self defence, from any sources," the King said.

Mubarak, Zia discuss Mideast

(Continued from page 1)

hanistan, relations with neighbouring countries and "the Middle East situation above all." Egyptian Prime Minister Ali Lutfi said the two sides also reviewed the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war and ways to end it.

Gen. Zia arrived on Saturday for a three-day stay and will visit Saudi Arabia and Qatar on his way home. Officials in Islamabad have said Pakistan wants to forge closer links with other Islamic nations.

In banquet speeches Saturday night, both Mr. Mubarak and Gen. Zia voiced firm support for an international Middle East peace conference and called for unity among Arab and Muslim states.

President Mubarak rejected U.S. and Israeli efforts to exclude the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from Middle East peace talks.

"We reject all attempts to discard (the PLO) from efforts to reach a settlement, distort its image or minimise its role," Mr. Mubarak said at the banquet.

"There can be no comprehensive peace in the Middle East without convening an international peace conference with all parties, with the PLO at the forefront, participating," he added.

Mr. Mubarak's statement, endorsed by Gen. Zia, indicated that the strain in Cairo's relations with the PLO over the Achille Lauro affair had not shaken Egypt's position regarding the PLO's role in future peace moves.

Gen. Zia said Pakistan saw "that any settlement of the Middle East problem, to be durable and universally acceptable, must be comprehensive. Therefore we endorse the proposal to convene an international conference on the Middle East."

He said the two superpowers bore a responsibility "in helping to break the deadlock and to achieve a balance between the negotiating positions as well as the respective rights of all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Gen. Zia said continued unrest in the Middle East "poses a formidable threat to international peace and security."

Karami predicts peace 'very soon'

(Continued from page 1)

Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, the architect of the proposed pact.

Lebanon's Sunnis are not directly involved in the tripartite negotiations between leaders of the Shiite Muslim Amal militia, the Progressive Socialist Party of Walid Junblatt and the mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia.

Political observers say that with the fine print of the draft treaty already cleared by the three parties, the Syrians have now to secure the support of Lebanese factions which were not directly involved in formulating the accord.

Reuters adds: The peace pact would be announced when "reservations are removed" over proposed changes to the presidency, the office of prime minister and parliament, state-owned Beirut Radio said.

The agreement was expected to be signed on Sunday by the militia leaders to mark the end of 10 years of sectarian bloodshed in which up to 100,000 people have died.

President Amin Gemayel, given a copy of the draft plan on Saturday by a senior Syrian envoy, later told Syrian President Hafez Al Assad by telephone he would "take a final stand" on the agreement after holding talks in Beirut, the radio said.

The accord has led to concern in some sectors of the Christian community, notably the pro-Gemayel leadership of the Falange Party.

Correction

In one of our stories covering the opening of the new parliament session yesterday, Deputy Mohammad Al Haj Abdullah was reported to have been absent due to health reasons. In fact the deputy who missed the opening session was not Mr. Al Haj Abdullah but Mr. Naim Al Tal, deputy for Irbid Governorate. We apologise for any inconvenience the error may have caused.

Israel reports diplomatic efforts

(Continued from page 1)

Last week, Peres won an endorsement from parliament for his agreement to hold talks under international sponsorship, despite objections within his coalition.

The senior Israeli official called the rapprochement between Jordan and Syria "an interesting development." He said Israel would welcome any indication from Damascus that Syria was ready to join peace talks but added that "there is no indication that Syria has changed its policy on anything."

Mr. Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for the Near East, told a congressional committee last Thursday that Syria must be involved in an Arab-Israeli peace agreement.

Peres recently said Israel was willing to talk with Syria as well as Jordan. Such talks are unlikely since Damascus has ruled out a negotiated settlement until military parity with Israel is achieved. The official said Israel is considering a series of moves to ease restrictions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The measures were intended to "facilitate and improve the climate for the peace process," said the official.

Earlier, Israeli officials had reflected divisions within their government by giving mixed reactions to the King's speech on Saturday. Peres' office told Israel television there were positive elements in the speech while Foreign Ministry officials termed the address a disappointment.

Peres has been anxious to press on with peace efforts while his right-wing Likud coalition partners led by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir oppose moves to give up occupied Arab land.

Foreign Ministry officials said the King had taken a harder line on international involvement in peace moves than in his speech last month at the U.N. General Assembly.

Also earlier, Israel Radio quoted officials as saying that Washington would continue to explore the possibility of convening by the end of the year an international committee on Middle East peace.

Peres opposes wide international involvement in negotiations, but has said direct talks between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian team could begin with a festive international opening.

GCC summit begins in Oman

(Continued from page 1)

emir of Kuwait in Kuwait last May, is high on the leaders' agenda.

The agreement is expected to include sharing intelligence among the six states, but few other details have emerged. At their last summit in Kuwait, the six agreed to form a joint defence force, to be

based in Saudi Arabia.

Other topics include the oil market situation, threatened by the spectre of a price collapse, and the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war, which has dominated all five previous summits since the GCC was formed in May 1981, officials said (See page 2).



Citibank Jordan arranges an International Trade Service Seminar

A two-day seminar on international trade services arranged by Citibank in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was opened Saturday November 2, at the Regency Hotel in Amman.

Mr. Zubayr Soomro, the General Manager of Citibank in Jordan, in his opening address, welcomed the participants and wished them every success in their deliberations. After he outlined the objectives for the covering of the seminar and benefits to be derived there

from.

It is worth mentioning that Mr. Bill McNeely who conducted this seminar is a well-known trade finance expert at Citibank, New York. He has 35 years of experience in handling trade products and has been conducting similar seminars for Citibank worldwide and throughout other Middle Eastern countries.

The seminar was attended by representatives of local and foreign banks operating in

Jordan, as well as government agencies and private sector entities.

The seminar commenced with a lecture on the evolution of international trade and was followed up by various lectures on trade finance instruments such as collections, letters of credit and bankers acceptances. It also included various sessions for case studies and applications of these instruments.

مَكْنَا مَعْنَى الْأَعْلَى

Polyclinic provides health care for Jerusalem's poor

By Daoud Kuttab

JERUSALEM — Medical care for Palestinian residents in Jerusalem's Old City is of paramount importance due to the lack of accessible health facilities inside the city walls. This medical care must be provided to the city's residents, at reasonable rates because two-thirds of the Old City residents are not covered by any health insurance plan. Hospice was the only hospital that provided low-cost medical care for Old City residents. But Israeli health officials have closed down the Hospice for good, and that means alternative health facilities must be found to serve this population. Medical and philanthropic officials, have nevertheless worked very hard to encourage other private medical institutions outside the Israelis' reach to take up the slack.

St. Benedict's Polyclinic

One of these private institutes is St. Benedict's Polyclinic, run by the Orthodox Society for Relief of the Sick. Established in 1926, the Orthodox Society has redoubled its efforts to serve patients since 1979, when it founded the polyclinic. Eight medical specialists come to the clinic at present times and provide their services to Jerusalem patients at very low fees. The polyclinic building was provided by the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, which also pays for utilities and telephone expenses. The clinic is run exclusively by the Christian Arab Society. Members of the society volunteer their time and efforts to raise funds for the polyclinic through bazaars, private contributions and fund-raising campaigns directed at European and American donor groups.

The polyclinic was recently the scene of a special celebration to inaugurate a new X-ray unit — the first in the Old City. The \$120,000 unit was paid for by the American Community Development Foundation, contributed through the auspices of Greek Catholic Bishop Lutfi Laham. However, \$30,000 still remains to be raised.

The Greek Orthodox Society for the Relief of the Sick was established in Jerusalem in 1926. Through the almost single-handed efforts of Melia Habibi, a group of Arab Christian women who founded the Society were able to fund a small outpatient clinic in the Old City. Very nominal fees were charged for medical services and prescriptions for the needy. In the 1940s, the Society purchased a plot of land in the Jaramoun neighbourhood in West Jerusalem in order to build a convalescence home. They lost the land after the 1948 war, so they concentrated instead on the Old City of Jerusalem which was fast becoming overcrowded with fleeing Palestinians who took refuge inside the walls. "When so many Palestinians had no homes, no shelters and no clothes, the society doubled its efforts and gave a hand to all those who needed help, especially the elderly," says a recent brochure issued by the Society.

New blood

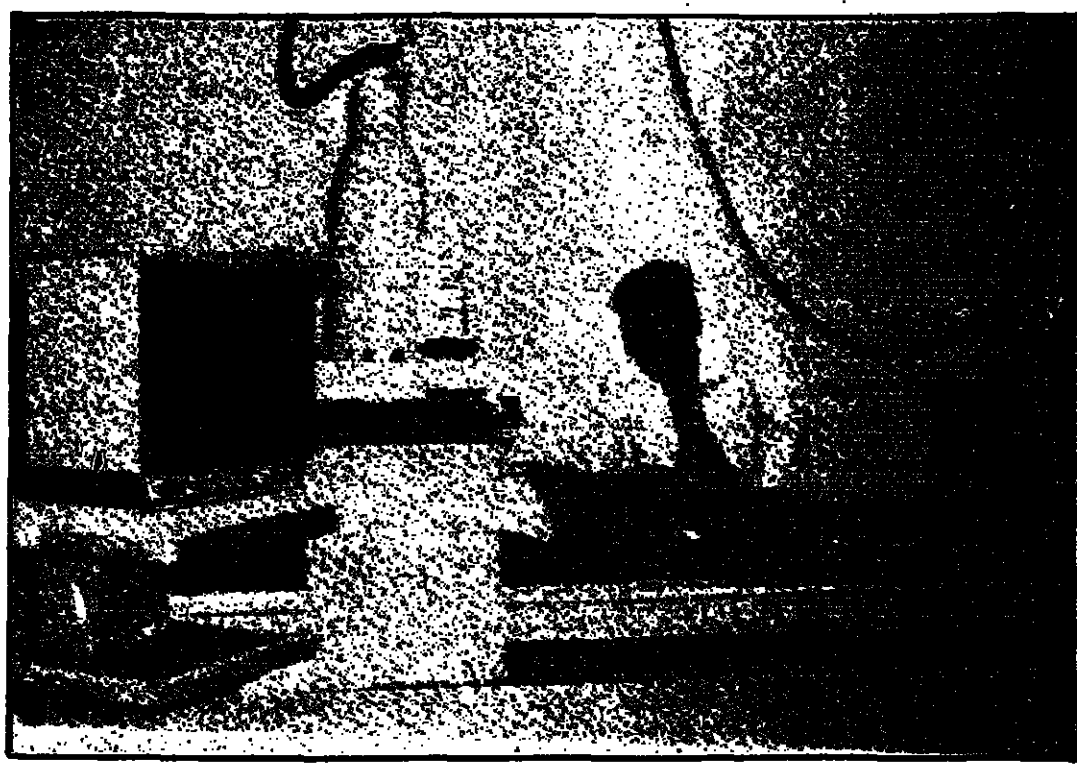
By the mid and late 1970s, the Society's original founders and main activists had become too old to continue. The Society's services began to go downhill. In 1979, however, a new president, Lillian Kassich, was elected, and new members — including, for the first time, men — joined the society and gave it a boost. Among these was Dr. Emile Jargoui, a pediatrician who has now been appointed to head the Society's Medical Committee. In 1979, Society members were able to convince Greek Orthodox Bishop Jeremias to help them by donating new building space. An unused section of the Patriarchate's estate was found and converted into the polyclinic, which opened in 1979 under the name of Greek Orthodox Patriarchate Benedictos. Bishop Jeremias, who was enthusiastic about the project, helped out by buying basic furniture and initiating a fund-raising campaign that brought in a JD 1,000 starting budget. Six specialists agreed to make regular scheduled visits to the new polyclinic to see patients.

In particular, the polyclinic's ear, nose and throat specialist was besieged with patients after the Israelis closed down the ear, nose and throat section in the Hospice hospital in 1980.

Relations between the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate and the Society have been a little rocky in the past but are now apparently on the mend. Nora Kort, the Society's secretary, told *Al Fajr* that the Society agreed to give free medical services to the Greek Orthodox priests and nuns in return for the Church's donations of building space and funds for utilities. However, Kort noted, the Greek Orthodox Church contributed only \$3,000 for the X-ray machine while American and Catholic organisations contributed nearly \$100,000. Nevertheless, Kort said, the present Patriarch Deodoros I has taken a more active role in supporting the polyclinic. During the May 26 inauguration of the new X-ray machine, Patriarch Deodoros I presented honorary Holy Sepulchre medals and special gold medals to a number of the Orthodox Society's most active members.

Medical reactions

The polyclinic faced other problems as well — including local opposition and Israeli obstacles. Officials from the Orthodox Society say that a number of local medical and charitable societies were initially opposed to purchasing medical machinery as advanced as the X-ray machine. Dr. Amin Khatib, head of the West Bank Union of Charitable societies told *Al Fajr* that he was initially opposed to the Society's plan to acquire an X-ray machine. "At the time the polyclinic ordered the X-ray machine, we had plans to install a similar machine in the Arab Medical Centre, near Herod's gate in the Old City," Khatib said that when the Arab Medical Centre's X-ray unit was transferred to Ramallah instead, he reversed his stand and supported the polyclinic's purchase. "I simply don't like to see money used for duplicate work," he said.



Jerusalem patient X-rayed by the polyclinic's newest machine

Khatib also noted that he still objects to Society plans to open a dental unit which will be funded with American donations raised by an Arab clergyman in the U.S., Father Hanna Sakaah. Khatib said that the dental unit will hurt local dentists' business. Dr. Yasir Obeid, head of the East Jerusalem health department, vehemently disagrees with Khatib. "The polyclinic and all its efforts are a positive contribution to the Old City's needy," he told *Al Fajr*. Obeid said that the existing medical equipment in all of Jerusalem is old, and those who brought in the new machines should be congratulated. As for the dental unit, Obeid again objected to Khatib's argument. He said Palestinian society is weak at providing and seeking preventative health care. "The new dental unit, which will concentrate on serving students from all over Jerusalem, will vastly improve the situation since it is much better to deal with dental problems in their early stages," he said.

The Israelis, for their part, are

not particularly keen on encouraging the Orthodox Society for the Sick to advance and expand. After losing its land plot in West Jerusalem after 1948, the Society purchased a four-dunum plot in the Kalandia suburb of Jerusalem just before 1967. The Society intended to build a model convalescence home on the plot but so far applications for a building permit have been turned down. At first, Israeli officials said that the land plot is located in a so-called "green area" where building is forbidden. However, they did allow a number of residents to build private homes on the spot. Later they turned down the application on grounds that the area was too close to the airport and the sound level would be unbearable for patients. The Society has rejected the Israeli excuse and appointed an Israeli lawyer to work on getting a permit. An Israeli sound expert also surveyed the area and submitted a report that did not support the authorities' allegations.

As with most philanthropic org-

anisations, the greatest problem facing the Orthodox Society is financial. Although the Society has succeeded in raising large one-time grants for medical machinery and specific projects, they are never able to cover the running costs with donations. Polyclinic officials estimate the monthly cost of running the polyclinic averages JD 400. Although the Society has successfully completed a number of fund-raising projects, it has yet to find a sure way of guaranteeing the monthly running budget. The latest suggestion is that the Society start a children's nursery, the profits of which would go to pay the running costs of the polyclinic. As the hard economic situation increasingly forces women to work, this project may in the future help the Society to become self-supporting. Until then, members of the Orthodox Society for the Sick continue to seek new ways to keep the polyclinic open so that it can provide medical help for the needy Arab residents of Jerusalem's Old City — *Al Fajr*, Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly.

West Germany trying to close a technology gap

By Kenneth Jantz
The Associated Press

BONN, West Germany — From the dark reaches of outer space to plush corporate boardrooms, West Germany is struggling to regain the edge in high technology, an edge it has lost to the Americans and Japanese.

The government's chartering of the U.S. Challenger space shuttle is the latest step in its high-tech push. West Germany also subsidizes high-tech research on earth, plans to join the French-led Eureka research programme and is creating high-tech centres to support entrepreneurs.

"We nearly missed getting on the space technology bandwagon," Research and Technology Minister Heinz Riesenhuber told reporters monitoring the Challenger's Cape Canaveral lift-off from a control room near Munich. "We want to be on the top."

West Germany paid the United States \$64 million to ferry a West German payload into orbit, and it is the first time a shuttle payload is being controlled by a foreign country. Most of the 76 experiments conducted during the flight are German, and two members of the eight-man crew are West Germans.

The Ministry of Research and Technology said the space shuttle's weeklong trip — which began last Wednesday — could help West German industry develop new metals and lead to commercial space ventures.

"It is only through continued innovation that we will forge an economically sound future," Riesenhuber told German businessmen last month.

West Germany's principal problem, analysts say, is that in the era of microchips and liquid crystal displays, its industry still excels in producing steel, cars and other industrial mainstays.

Bonn officials and businessmen acknowledge that German industry lags behind the United States

and Japan in several growing high-technology fields, including microelectronics, robotics, and data systems.

"We were late in becoming concerned about housing new technologies," August Ortmeier, a Bonn-based analyst for the German Industry and Trade Association, told the Associated Press.

"Perhaps that is because things went better for us for longer than elsewhere in Europe," he added. "Our (economic) downturn came a little later, and it is only when things start not to go so well that you look for new ideas."

In a report released last March, the Research and Technology Ministry noted West German industry is forced to import more than 50 per cent of the microchips it needs and more than 40 per cent of its robotics equipment.

The report also noted that IBM, the U.S. computer giant, holds more than 50 per cent of the German computer market, despite stepped up sales efforts by the Siemens and Nixdorf corporations, the two main domestic competitors.

The high-technology improvement campaign picked up steam in April, when the West German parliament approved a 3-billion-mark (more than 1 billion U.S. dollars) research package to be applied solely to "backward" technological sectors. It is one of the most ambitious such projects undertaken by a European government.

The money is to be paid in direct and indirect subsidies to West German companies over the next four years to finance high-technology research.

The government has also proposed a 7-billion mark (\$2.7 billion) overall research budget for 1986, a 3.6 per cent increase over the 1985 figure.

But in a separate report compiled in September, Economics Ministry officials complained the government was still not doing enough to plug West Germany's technological gap.

"The United States spends six times as much money as West Germany does on (military and civilian) research and development, while the U.S. government spends 10 times as much as the German government," the report said.

Bonn officials also hope to boost the effectiveness of the country's research projects by joining Eureka, the French-led European programme for pooling efforts on high-technology research.

Riesenhuber was slated to present several West German proposals, including one for advanced laser research, at a French-West German conference on Eureka, beginning Nov. 4.

Meanwhile, officials throughout the country are setting up "technology parks," or centres, in an attempt to aid high-technology businesses get off the ground. The centres will offer entrepreneurs help in obtaining financial backing, arrange research work with local universities and give accounting and other business advice.

"For the young entrepreneur with a new idea, things are easier today than ever before," said Peter Blume, spokesman for the National Trade Association.

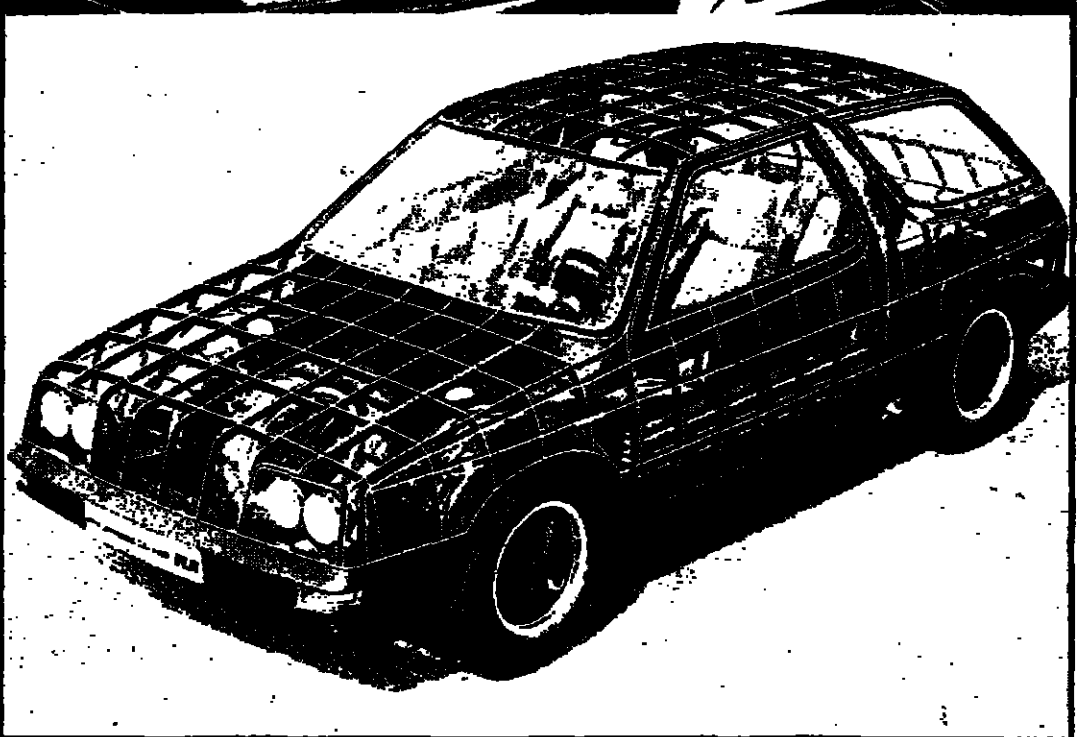
Meanwhile, many of West Germany's largest corporations are maneuvering to ensure their dominance in an increasingly technology-oriented market.

The most dramatic example was last month's surprise announcement that the country's most famous car maker had bid for control of one of West Germany's largest electronics companies.

Daimler-Benz, the maker of Mercedes, offered more than 1 billion marks (\$384 million) for control of AEG, a diversified electrical and electronics group.

Daimler-Benz purchased three smaller high-technology companies earlier this year for 2.6 billion marks (\$955 million).

There is widespread speculation that Daimler is jockeying to bid on participation in the U.S. "Star Wars" research programme.



West Germans are still leading in automobile industries

Family tragedy fuels criticism of Australian court system

By Reg Gratton
Reuters

SYDNEY — Norman Drummond picked up his three small children from his estranged wife Gail, drove them deep into a forest near the west Australian city of Perth and meticulously carried out his threat to kill them and himself.

Police tracked down Drummond's station wagon six days after it went missing. A length of hose had been jammed over the car's exhaust pipe and fed through the rear window.

Drummond, 37, and the three children — aged five, three and two — were found huddled on the front seat.

The tragedy has prompted re-

newed criticism of Australia's family courts — where disputes on divorce and child custody are settled — after a series of incidents which opponents say point to their failings.

Drummond had earlier declared he would kill himself and the children because of a family court decision that gave custody of his two sons and daughter to his wife. He sent long and bitter suicide letters to relatives.

"I went to the family court seeking justice and compassion for my children. This turned out to be a vain endeavour," Drummond wrote in a letter to a Perth newspaper.

The children's mother said she had told authorities many times

that she feared for their lives. "Their hands were tied by bureaucracy," she told reporters.

In another incident in September, police in the north-east state of Queensland shot and killed a man who threatened them with a rifle after they served court orders to remove his seven children.

Anger and resentment at the family courts have sometimes been expressed violently. Just over a year ago, a huge gellignite blast virtually demolished the Sydney home of a senior family court judge. Killing his wife.

Family courts handle more than 40,000 divorce applications a year and rule on issues such as child custody, maintenance and prop-

erty settlement. They are intended to be compassionate and informal.

Judges, whose suitability is based on training, experience and personality, wear civilian clothes rather than the normal judicial wigs and gowns. They enter courtrooms through the same entrance as the couples whose cases they are about to hear instead of through a special door.

But Barry Williams, president of the Lone Fathers Association, says the courts have been making too many mistakes.

The deaths of Norman Drummond and his three children were another example of the emotional heartache and bitterness which the courts had created. Wil-

liams said.

His association, which says it deals with complaints from women as well as men, believes the family courts should be overhauled and that the government should bring in a non-legal committee to arbitrate in custody disputes.

A family court counsellor, Dawn Rowan, told Reuters the judges were out of touch with the community and lawyers often gave clients unreal expectations about settlement claims and custody of children.

Attorney-general Lionel Bowen has admitted he finds it difficult to attract judges to work in family court because of a prevalent attitude that there is som-

ething wrong with it.

Judges are also worried about their safety. At least 60 police have been assigned to guard family courts and judges in Sydney alone following last year's bombing.

Bowen has suggested that the status of family court judges should be upgraded, that they should also be given other judicial work and that appeals should be heard by senior judges.

But the government says too much public stress has been placed on what is wrong with the family court system and not enough on what is right with it.

Bowen said, "Ninety per cent of the cases are settled, which is a very remarkable effort."

Randa Habib's Corner

'Sales... sales'

"SALES", "sales." Those big signs are decorating the windows of most of the boutiques of Amman. Winter clothes are starting to be displayed, so, shop owners try to sell as much as they can of summer clothes remaining in their stock.

All this is fine, and people can make good bargains in times of sales.

However, there are a few things that should be said in this connection.

Three boutiques in Jabal Amman had a big sign announcing a 75 per cent discount on all the clothes displayed in their shops.

If you had a look inside those shops you would have noted that most of the prices were such that they had nothing to do with the promised "real bargain" of 75 per cent discount.

This can only mean that either the prices were extremely and illogically high before the alleged sale, or that the shop owners added few numbers to the initial price in order to subtract them again and give the impression of a big discount.

Discount in sales usually range between 5 and 10 per cent except perhaps in cases of closing down. This is so for a simple reason and that is the margin of profit should always be reasonable. What can we say when now in Amman most of the sales talk of 25, 30, 50 or even 75 per cent discount rates? We can only conclude that the profits of the shops are excessive and should be controlled.

Once again, even with the sales, the items are not cheap. They are just "less expensive."

A committee should be formed or made to look into the issue in order to keep an eye on the prices and on the reality of the sales in comparison with the original prices.

Spain's 'heartthrob press' rides high

By Francois Raitberger
Reuters

MADRID — It's all love, beauty and wealth in Spain's heartthrob press, and millions fall for it.

Princesses, actors and millionaires are busy getting married, having babies, throwing parties and being happy. War, hunger, unemployment and other scourges have no place in what Spaniards call *Prensa del corazon* (heart press).

"Readers want to escape from reality, to dream. We have to sell, so we have to entertain," said Jaime Penafiel, who has worked for 27 years in this type of journalism as star reporter, editor and now publisher.

"We do not write about death. We pretend nothing ill ever happens to the wealthy," he said.

It works: The smallest of the seven weeklies making up the heart press, *Garbo*, dwarfs the two top serious news magazines *Camino 16* and *Tiempo* put together and equals the biggest daily *El Pais* with a circulation of 345,000. The biggest and cheapest of the seven, *Pronto*, sells 725,000.

Many of those who do not buy the heart press read it at the hairdresser's or the dentist, extending its reach to all classes of society and giving it enormous influence.

The seven, which cost from 45 to 90 U.S. cents and collect \$93 million in sales a year, fight for scoops week after week, paying huge sums for exclusive stories.

Penafiel, who edited *Hola*, the glossiest of the seven, for 25 years before launching *La Revista* last year, says he is against cheque-book journalism but competition leaves no choice.

He said politicians queued up at election time to be talked about, and said he made the popularity of former prime minister Adolfo Suarez by showing him as a family man when he was still virtually unknown in 1977.

"I keep out of politics. I always join the winner," he said.

This week, most of the seven had the same pictures of Britain's princess Anne driving a tank and princess Stephanie of Monaco with a new hairstyle. Her sister, princess Caroline, and shipping magnate Christina Onassis appeared playing with their baby children.

The summer season, when millionaires flock to Spain's Costa Del Sol and provide a gold mine of scandals and parties worth many years of readers' salaries, was over. Good stories seemed hard to come by.

Among beauty, sex, health and cooking recipes, grandees showed off fabulous homes, famous couples celebrated wedding anniversaries, stars chatted at the poolside, young fiancées prepared to marry bull-fighters and not-so-famous actors stared up in unlikely surprise from their restaurant tables.

The magazines thrive on each other, each getting mileage on shooting down competitors' stories.

Frontpage story of the week was an alleged love affair between an actress and a wealthy marquis carried the previous week by one of the big seven.

"Marquis: I have not seen (the actress) for two years. Actress: I never said I had relations with the Marquis," said *Diez Minutos* (circulation 435,000).

"Categorical denial from the Marquis," said *Hola* (505,000). "The whole truth on the affair between the actress and the marquis," said *Garbo*.

Actress: "The marquis disappointed me," said *La Revista*. *La Revista*, the youngest of the seven, has no circulation figure officially listed yet. Penafiel, its publisher, says it sells 450,000. But he adds: "Circulation is the opposite of a woman's age: We always confess more."

Child prostitutes banned in 'sin city'

By Graham Lovell
Reuters

MANILA — Child prostitution has been banned under a new law passed by authorities in Manila, one of Asia's premier "sin cities."

Manila's Ermita district is known by paedophiles throughout the world as a centre of child sex. Many young prostitutes, boys as well as girls, are barely into their teens.

Under the new law passed by the metropolitan government last week jail sentences of up to four years will be imposed on anyone convicted of prostituting or sexually exploiting a person under 18 years of age.

Procureurs and operators of massage parlours, motels, hotels and night clubs who let minors into their establishments also face fines and imprisonment.

The new ordinance, the first such local government law in the Philippines, provides that if the offender is a foreigner "he shall be deported after serving sentence."

The move follows expressions of concern by church and social welfare agencies over the growing number of youngsters who prowl popular tourist areas offering themselves as sex partners.

Many are on the streets with the connivance of parents who need the money their children bring

home. But local newspapers frequently report cases of teenagers procuring other youngsters to have sex with foreigners.

Australian police recently gave Philippine authorities a list of known paedophiles to help the crackdown on child sex and about a dozen foreigners have been deported this year after being found with children, immigration officials said.

Police often raid the Ermita district, a popular tourist haunt noted for its go-go dancers and disco-bars, "hospitality girls" and massage parlours, to round up the scores of children looking for business.

But officials say the laws against child prostitution are inadequate to deal with the problem and the most police can do is detain the children briefly in rehabilitation centres.

The new law cites as presumptions of sexual exploitation, anyone found with a minor "under suspicious circumstances" inside a room or cubicle of a massage parlour, hotel or motel, anyone found showing pornographic films or photographs to a minor and "any person who receives the services of a minor in a sauna parlour or bath, massage clinic or health club."

A similar bill is pending before the national assembly.

Rosberg ends Williams career with victory

ADELAIDE (R) — Keke Rosberg closed the Formula One motor racing season Sunday with an impressive win in the inaugural Australian Grand Prix.

But the Finn, whose victory in his final race for Williams hoisted him to third place in the drivers' championship, had harsh words for Brazilian Ayrton Senna after a mid-race clash of their cars.

"The problem that we have with Ayrton is that he is a very talented and very fast driver but he is just going too hard," Rosberg, 36, told reporters.

Senna rammed the rear tyre of Rosberg's car and rendered his own Lotus almost useless after destroying its front aerofoil.

His car repaired, Senna went back out to take the lead from 1984 world champion Niki Lauda's McLaren, but soon retired for good with a misfiring engine.

Senna was in pole position ahead of the two Williams of Briton Nigel Mansell and Rosberg.

But by the end of lap one Rosberg was in the lead after a clash between Senna and Mansell had forced the British winner of the last two Grands Prix to retire.

"Senna was a total idiot, for an

82-lap race, for what he did to drive me off the circuit. He might be quick, he might be good, but he is not a good driver," Mansell said.

Watched by more than 110,000 people, Rosberg led for all but nine of the 82 laps of the 3.78-km street circuit, stopping three times for fresh tyres.

"When I had time I picked up a new set of tyres to be ready. If somebody gave me a hard time at what I had the weapons," Rosberg told reporters.

Rosberg was the only one of the four race leaders to complete the race which was run in temperatures of 30 degrees Celsius on what Rosberg, like many other drivers, said was the best street circuit in the world.

The oldest man on the track, 42-year-old Frenchman Jacques Laffite, followed Rosberg into second place. Laffite's Ligier teammate Philippe Streiff limped home in third with his left front wheel mangled after a last lap collision with Laffite.

Young Italian Ivan Capelli, 22, drove his Tyrrell into fourth place

to collect three world championship points in only his second Grand Prix.

Senna had been the only Lotus driver left in the race after Italian teammate Elio De Angelis was called back to the pits by race stewards for a starting infringement.

Lauda, in his last race before retirement, had a spectacular accident after passing Senna, when his McLaren slewed to the left as he braked for a right hand corner and rammed into a barrier. The Austrian walked away unhurt.

Rosberg is to replace Lauda in the McLaren team next year. Brazilian Nelson Piquet, who will fill the space in the Williams team for 1986, retired early in the race with an electrical fire.

Lauda's teammate and new world champion Alain Prost of France retired with a blown engine on lap 27, but the loss of both cars did not cost McLaren its second victory in a row in the constructors world championship.

Ferrari gained two points Sunday, to finish eight points behind McLaren, with a fifth place for Swede Stefan Johansson.

Rosberg's win puts the Williams team equal with Lotus at third on 71 points.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jordan's polo team trounces British squad

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's polo team Sunday beat the British polo team in a match held at the Polo Club in Zarqa. The score was 7-2. The match was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who delegated Brig. Salem Al Turk, assistant Army Chief of Staff to attend the match. The match was also attended by His Majesty King Hussein's son Ali, the Acting Zarqa Governor, the British military attaché and several other officials. At the end of the match Brig. Turk presented a cup to the winning team and distributed gifts to the members of both teams.

Zamalek manages second win of season

CAIRO (R) — African champions Zamalek, continuing a poor early season run, could manage only a 1-0 victory over lowly Al Mansoura Saturday night in Egypt's first division soccer championship. Zamalek, holders of the African Champions' Cup, scored through midfielder Gamal Abdul Hamid four minutes from time to clinch their second win in five league matches. It was Zamalek's last league fixture before their away return date with Morocco's Royal Armed Forces next week in the semi-finals of the African Cup.

Paris Saint-Germain equals record

PARIS (R) — Paris Saint-Germain drew 1-1 with Monaco in the French first division Saturday to equal the longest unbeaten record by a French soccer club — games in a row. The Paris side, who hope to bring the French league title to the capital for the first time in 50 years, took the lead through Argentine striker Omar Da Fonseca in the 27th minute. But Monaco stepped up the pressure after the break and finally grabbed an equaliser 10 minutes from time.

Finn wins Ivory Coast rally

YAMOUSSOUKRO (R) — Juha Kankkunen of Finland, driving a Toyota Celica, won the Ivory Coast Motor Rally Sunday in one of the closest finishes in the history of rally driving. Kankkunen, 27, had the same penalty score — four hours 46 minutes — as 42-year-old Swede Bjorn Waldegaard, also in a Toyota Celica. But he was declared winner for a faster time on the 46 kms Alepe-Kosandji sector on the second Abidjan-Yamoussoukro stage. The last time a major rally was settled in this way was in the 1973 Kenyan Safari contest when Kenyan Shekhar Mathias tied with Swedish Harry Kallstrom on penalty points but won overall because he recorded a better time on one of the sectors.

Samsunspor rallies to stay on top in Turkish prime division

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — Newly-promoted Samsunspor staged a three-goal rally in the second half to defeat Kocaelispor 3-2 Sunday and retain its lead on goal aggregate at the end of 10th-round of play in the prime soccer division. Samsunspor, which took lead last week, came back from the brink of defeat after conceding a 2-0 lead to previously 18th-placed Kocaelispor on its own ground. Samsunspor forwarder Tanju scored three goals in the second period to increase his lead to 14 in the top scorers list this season. Powerful capital city squad Gendierbirli, which is one the

Breeders' Cup a showcase for Pebbles and Proud Truth

By Jack Cavanaugh
Raeur

NEW YORK — Proud Truth and Britain's super-filly Pebbles fought back from highly unpromising positions to win the top two Breeders' Cup races Saturday.

Pebbles broke the track record and made up for a disappointing performance by the strong British contingent in the Breeders' Cup mile which fell to the U.S.-trained Cozzene.

In the all-American \$3 million classic, Proud Truth, last with half a mile to go, edged out Gate Dancer by a head.

Pebbles beat French-trained Strawberry Road, the ex-Australian champion, by a neck in the \$2 million turf after racing last but one at the half mile stage.

Proud Truth turned in an electrifying performance in only his second race in four months. The 7-1 shot overtook Gate Dancer with about a furlong to go and just held on in a driving finish. Turkoman was third with even-favourite Chief's Crown fourth.

The triumph by Pebbles was equally as dramatic. Last month's Newmarket Champion Stakes winner appeared boxed on the inside as she tried to make up ground.

With two furlongs to go Pebbles, ridden by Pat Eddery, owned by Sheikh Mohammed of Dubai and trained by Clive Brittain, had fought her way into fourth behind

the Americans Greinton and Who's For Dinner and British-trained Arlington Million winner Teleprompter.

As the leaders gave way a gap opened up for 2-1 favourite Pebbles who shot through with the race apparently at her mercy.

But Strawberry Road, a tough campaigner on three continents, stretched the 1984 English 1,000 Guineas winner all the way.

Halfway down the final 200 metres Strawberry Road appeared on the verge of overtaking Pebbles but the filly withstood the challenge in a tense finish. Outsider Mourjae ran on to be third with last year's shock winner, Lasikari, in fourth.

In the mile, Cozzene, trained by Jon Nerud in the U.S., overtook Al Mamoon with less than a furlong to win comfortably.

French-trained Palace Music, and 8-1 shot, finished second but was disqualified for interfering with Europe's top miler Roussillon, the favourite, and Tsunami Slew midway through the stretch and was placed ninth.

English 2,000 Guineas winner Shaddeed was promoted to third, but it was a disappointing race for the British raiders. Roussillon was slowly away and lost any chance he might have had when bumped by Palace Music, and top sprinter Never So Bold, who is effective over longer distances, also broke badly.

A crowd of more than 30,000 turned up to watch horse racing's richest day with \$10 million at stake.

Eddery, who last month won the Arc De Triomphe in Paris, the Irish St. Leger and the Champion Stakes, is in the middle of an amazing sequence of big race successes.

Pebbles had to fight her way through heavy traffic but the Irish born, ex-British champion jockey said: "I wasn't worried about my filly's speed. I knew she could win if given the chance."

"She is a brilliant runner. You just pick her up and she goes for you. After the final turn she just dropped into the gap I found for her on the rail and went on to win."

Brittain said he had not decided whether to enter the filly in the International in Washington later this month.

"When we came over, (from England) she seemed to settle in real well and was improving all the time. She had to be a good filly to win from the post we drew," Brittain said. "We would have done better if we had a more inside post."

Proud Truth's jockey Jorge Velasquez, who earned the horse's owner \$1.35 million, said: "This is one of the proudest moments of my life. What a race, what a horse. I'm so happy."

Bayer Uerdingen tops Cologne 3-2

BONN (R) — Bayer Uerdingen, whose West German cup defence was abruptly curtailed by second division Eintracht Trier this week, regained their self-confidence Saturday with a solid 3-2 league win over Cologne.

Cologne looked on the way to their first away win this season after international forward Pierre Littbarski and Ralf Gellienkirchen had put them 2-1 ahead at half-time.

But the formidable Peter Looft, who had got Bayer back on terms in the first half, clinched victory with an 85th minute goal after Wolfgang Schaefer scored.

On a day involving none of the top five clubs, Bayer's win meant they swapped places with Cologne to take over 10th place.

The league leadership changed hands Friday night when Borussia Moenchengladbach profited from Werder Bremen's 5-1 mauling by Bayer Leverkusen to go top.

Moenchengladbach beat second-from-bottom Borussia Dortmund 3-2 to dislodge Werder — leaders for 11 weeks — on goal difference. Champions Bayern Munich retained third place, breaking Kaiserslautern's unbeaten home run with a 2-0 win.

After 30 years, South Korea is going to World Cup finals

SEOUL (R) — South Korea moved into the World Cup finals for the first time in over 30 years when they beat Japan 1-0 Sunday.

Second-half substitute Huh Jung Moo scored the winning goal in the 61st minute when he fired a powerful shot past Japanese goalkeeper Kiyotaka Matsui after striker Choi Soon Ho's effort had rebounded from a post.

Both teams failed to score in the first half of the match, a third round second leg match in Asian qualifying group three, in front of 80,000 fans at Seoul's Olympic

Stadium.

The South Koreans, who won the first leg 2-1, showed far more coordination and flair than the Japanese in the first 45 minutes but were unable to convert any of eight good scoring chances which fell to them.

Japan came out for the second half determined to score the two goals necessary to keep their Mexico hopes alive.

But South Korea withstood the Japanese pressure and launched a series of swift counter-attacks which resulted in Huh's goal.

Spurred by the goal, the South Koreans swarmed into attack and could have scored three more goals in the final 20 minutes. At the final whistle the South Koreans jumped for joy, hugged each other and made a victory circuit of the stadium.

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Australia to play Scotland for Mexico trip

SYDNEY (R) — Australia, jubilant after their 2-0 victory over New Zealand Sunday, believe they can mount a serious challenge when they meet Scotland later this month for a place in the 1986 Mexico World Cup finals.

The triumph over New Zealand helped the "soccerroos" win the Oceania qualifying group and set up an all-or-nothing tie with Scotland over two legs later this month.

Australian coach Frank Arok is confident his team can shatter Scotland's hopes of an easy ride into the Mexico finals.

"Scottish players and officials saw us lose 2-1 to Glasgow Rangers last month and looked at us as a laughing matter," Arok said after the match. "Scotland are not capable of realising a nation 'down under' can make a game."

"Scotland will be a big bang but as I said as far as seven months ago I would prefer to play Scotland in the play-off."

The Scottish team booked their

place in the play-off by finishing second to Spain in European group seven.

A crowd of 22,000 watched the Australians rout New Zealand Sunday, cheering wildly when the home side captain John Kosmina scored the first goal in the 12th minute.

Striker David Mitchell dashed New Zealand's hopes when he soared to head a John Watson corner home.

"I was surprised at the amount of room they gave me in the set play. Normally a defender is breathing down my neck but I ran five metres unmarked before reaching the ball," Mitchell said.

It was just the tonic the Australians needed to boost their confidence.

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World tin prices head for steep fall

LONDON (R) — The only certainty in the beleaguered world tin market, hit by its worst crisis, is that prices are headed for a steep fall when international trading in the metal resumes.

For the second week running, there will be no tin traded on the usually hectic dealing floors of the London Metal Exchange (LME) this week while governments, bankers and brokers from London to Bangkok struggle to piece together a rescue package to help the tottering market back on its feet.

Some analysts believe that both the international tin market and the structure of the 108-year-old LME, the world's premier forum for metals trading, could be set for a drastic face-lift.

The LME suspended tin dealings on Oct. 24, after the International Tin Council (ITC), which buys and sells tin in the market, announced it had run out of cash to prop up prices above free market levels.

It was only a matter of time before the fragile structure which has been artificially buoying world tin prices collapsed, some analysts say.

The resulting turmoil is threatening not only the LME and the precarious economies of many poorer producing countries like Bolivia, but also the financial stability of many metals trading firms which have outstanding commitments with the ITC.

The damaging ripples have now spread to those banks which funded the ITC and metals broking firms alike, and even threaten London's stature as a leading financial centre.

"The credibility of one of London's major financial institutions is at risk," said Mr. Angus MacMillan, a senior metals analyst with London trader Shearson Lehman Brothers. "This has very serious implications for the financial structure of the rest of the City" (London's business nerve centre).

The ITC's 22 producer and consumer signatories met for two days of crisis talks in London last week. But unable to bridge members' differences on how best to throw a lifeline to the sinking market, the council adjourned without even a hint of whether or how it intended to meet its obligations.

The deadlock, says Mr. MacMillan, amounted to "a default by several sovereign governments, just like a major debtor country refusing to meet its financial obligations to a bank."

The ITC's lack of agreement on whether to lower its target support price of \$8,500 (\$12,200) a tonne or whether it was even worth continuing trying to bolster values in a glutted market has cast doubt on whether effective cooperation on a price support strategy will ever be possible again.

To resume trading in such uncertainty could have sent prices plummeting by as much as half, some dealers say, while continued suspension seemed certain to further jolt the LME's credibility.

On Friday, the LME elected the second round in the hope that another meeting of the ITC scheduled for next Wednesday will make some progress in restoring confidence to the market.

Meanwhile the ITC's debts, estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars, are mounting by the day.

And while trading remains suspended, there is no market price for tin. As a result traders have little idea of their outstanding liabilities or their underlying financial position.

"That means some of them are technically bankrupt, although they don't know it yet," one dealer said.

Business in other metals traded on the LME, which runs markets in some of the world's important raw materials, has dried to a trickle as brokers become wary of dealing with firms which could soon be in trouble.

Britain, anxious about the tin mines in Cornwall and the invisible foreign trade earnings brought in by the LME and other financial institutions, entered the stage openly for the first time late on Friday when a government spokesman announced that Britain was prepared to pay its share of the ITC's legal debts.

Some traders believe progress is at last being made.

"Steps are now under way and it is no longer a pious hope but a likelihood that a settlement will be reached," the head of one LME firm said. But he did not say at what price.

China moves to restore stock market

SHANGHAI (R) — Shanghai, which once boasted China's largest stock exchange, has taken a first step towards restoring it by setting up a company that will buy and sell shares, a city government spokesman said Sunday.

Mr. Wang Mingyang told Reuters the new firm had been approved by the city government and would begin operations by the end of this year. It will act as agent for people wanting to buy and sell shares issued by local state-run firms.

"This is an experiment," Mr. Wang said. "We want to improve the circulation of money and raise capital for production but we will not allow the unproductive speculation and profit-making you find in Western stock markets."

In the last two years, 13 firms in Shanghai, China's largest city and industrial centre, have offered shares worth about \$6.25 million. Shareholders have been allowed to sell them privately with the agreement of the firm but public trading is not allowed.

The new firm, operating under the Industrial and Commercial Bank, will bring together buyers and sellers, and arrange deals between them.

The biggest share issue so far was about \$1.5 million sold early this year by the Shanghai Yan Zhong Business Co. a trading and industrial firm.

"My shares sold out in six hours because they offered a better return than money in the bank and people, especially the young, wanted to buy something as novel as shares with interest and dividends," Mr. Zhou Xunrong, the firm's chief executive, said.

Oteiba warns of looming oil price war

ABU DHABI (AP) — United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Said Oteiba warned Sunday of an imminent oil price war unless there was cooperation among all oil producers, both inside and outside OPEC.

He said his controversial statement made to Abu Dhabi television last Thursday when he called for "free for all" prices was a "last message" to non-OPEC oil producers.

In an interview with the English-language newspaper Emirates News, Dr. Oteiba said the producers outside the 13-nation cartel, had to "put an end to their irresponsible acts and to competing in production and selling at prices lower than those of OPEC."

It was also a message to some members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) cartel who had exceeded their production quotas, Dr. Oteiba said.

Dr. Oteiba heads the OPEC market monitoring committee which is to meet in December to decide how the cartel will confront the continuing deterioration on the world oil market.

and the existence of many parasites who care for nothing but profiteering," Dr. Oteiba told the newspaper.

His free-for-all call was made "after we had heard some adversary circles around us and the developing countries, playing a farewell tune to OPEC," he said.

He stressed the necessity of "a meeting and dialogue" between OPEC and non-OPEC producers where a "just distribution of production quotas would be made in light of market circumstances and without discrimination among producers, whether they be OPEC or non-OPEC."

OPEC member states who had exceeded their production quotas had raised OPEC's overall production to 17 million barrels per day, one million more than the set production, Dr. Oteiba complained.

"They exploited the slight improvement in the market in the advent of winter but this improvement will not last long," he warned. "We hope from now on these states would be committed to their production quotas."

As to non-OPEC countries,

they had followed a practice of putting on the market every year an additional production ranging between 800,000 to 1.4 million barrels per day at the time when world consumption was on the decline, Dr. Oteiba charged.

This addition, he said, had forced OPEC countries to reduce their production from a high of 34 million barrels per day in 1979 to the record low of 14 million barrels per day in the summer of 1985.

Dr. Oteiba said that repeated calls by OPEC to non-OPEC producers to cooperate had not been heeded.

The meeting between OPEC and non-OPEC producers should be "a first step toward a comprehensive dialogue between producers and consumers," Dr. Oteiba said.

Warning of the looming price war among OPEC and non-OPEC producers, he said: "If our efforts are not consecrated to coordinating production among the two sides, then matters would get out of hand and it cannot be possible then for OPEC to continue losing its markets."

Dr. Oteiba's Thursday statement that OPEC member countries since their October meeting had abandoned the policy of rigid price and production levels, has been denied by the cartel's president, Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto as well as by Nigerian Oil Minister Tam David-West.

But Dr. Oteiba stressed in his statements to Emirates News that he had "just been more candid" with his words than those expressed at the October meeting.

Each member state had been given the freedom to price its oil within its production quota, he stressed.

After Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani told the October session that his country would "follow the others" in OPEC and offer price discounts on its crude oil sales, the OPEC chairman said the official price structure was still prevalent.

Asked why OPEC loathed to keep the structure when most member states were flouting it, Dr. Subroto had replied that he thought the official price was still important as a "guideline."

Sagging commodity prices spell woes for poor states

LONDON (R) — Just a decade ago, the then U.S. secretary of state Mr. Henry Kissinger, in one of his frequent and urgent appeals for greater world stability, sent out a call for better North-South cooperation on commodity prices.

With an eye clearly on the explosion of oil prices that was giving much of the world indignation in the mid-1970s, Mr. Kissinger urged that a system be developed to maintain Third World income.

It wasn't one of his more successful efforts. World commodity prices have since fallen so steeply that many are now languishing at their lowest level ever in real terms.

Tin prices crashed last week when the international buffer stock ran out of money with which to support a market that has been sagging for months and could yet fall much lower.

Sugar prices may have almost doubled from the 15-year low of less than three cents per pound plumed at mid-year but they are still too weak to offer even the lowest-cost producers any profit. Copper values remain locked in a five-year downturn.

"Looking ahead, and compared with their currently low position, I expect some rise in commodity prices in dollar terms," says Mr. David Kern, chief economist at National Westminster Bank, "but those increases will not keep up with inflation."

"In the short term," he adds gloomily, "commodity producers have serious problems."

It is not that long since the world's bankers were having sleepless nights when developing nations, many of them heavily dependent on the income from food and raw material exports, announced they were no longer able to repay their foreign debts. Poor commodity prices didn't help.

Some of the blame lies with producers themselves, not only in

developing countries. Eager to maximise their revenue or to earn more subsidies in the West, they have been churning out more food and raw material than the world knows what to do with.

Even rich states like the United States and the European Community, both nursing massive grain mountains at home, are battling with each other over markets for their farm exports.

America was marshalled together a \$2 billion "war chest" to fight for foreign markets against what it claimed were unfairly subsidised farm exports from the European Community.

Add to this equation slower economic growth — especially in the U.S. — and the risk of protectionism from richer nations who face calls from farmers for action against depressed world prices, and the prospects for the future do not look very rosy.

Some analysts fear that many developing countries will soon be in such straits that there could be another debt crisis like that which convulsed the world in 1982.

"Contrary to the popular belief that the debt crisis is over, it has been getting worse and worse over the past three years," according to Mr. Tim Congdon, chief economist at London stockbroker L. Messel and Co.

Mr. Congdon, who expresses amazement that the debt problem has been contained for so long, argues: "If the rate of interest on debt payments exceeds the rate of increase of commodity prices in dollar terms, which it has been doing and is likely to continue to do, the situation gets worse all the time."

Mr. Carlos Fortin, a fellow of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University, feels the plight of many poorer commodity producers is now so awful that, as he says, "I don't see how their debts can be repaid under any circumstances."

The protectionist fervour bubbling menacingly in industrialised countries, most notably in the United States, is another ominous portent.

Mr. Edouard Saouma, director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome, recently warned that widespread protectionism and sharp declines in the price of many commodities are leading the world "to the brink of a trade war."

Mr. Saouma's point that slumping commodity prices have made life difficult for poorer nations struggling to pay off debts was echoed by Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga, whose own country relies heavily on bauxite and alumina for its wellbeing.

Mr. Seaga told the United Nations in New York earlier last month: "The widespread experience that commodity prices have not increased in step with the recovery of international trade is the basis of the pessimism of debtor countries that the debt crisis is more with us now than ever before."

Focusing on Jamaica's own struggles to cope, Mr. Seaga added: "All the monumental pain and effort of adjustment has succeeded in moving us one step forward while the collapse of demand in the international marketplace has moved us two steps backwards."

Slower growth in the industrialised West has certainly taken its toll, and industrial raw materials like copper and rubber, which are sensitive to the general health of the world economy, have suffered particularly, says Mr. Fortin. With the current weight of excess supplies, they will probably continue to do so.

But equally disconcerting for developing nations is the dismal performance of most international commodity price stabilisation agreements.

elements and what they sense as a reluctance by richer nations to do anything about salvaging such pacts.

Since avid free-marketeer Mr. Ronald Reagan entered the White House, Washington has grown increasingly lukewarm to the whole idea of such internationally-coordinated price support pacts.

Most recently, the U.S. refused to give its blessing to a new international coffee agreement, one of the few such pacts which has enjoyed any measure of success in buoying up prices.

The dream nurtured by UNCTAD, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to weave a safety net of international commodity agreements to protect producers has all but died.

The ineffectual sugar agreement was put to rest last year, unable to cope with the ever-growing world sugar mountain.

The cocoa pact is another casualty. Buffer stock provisions were suspended three years ago

after \$225 million had been frittered away in unsuccessfully trying to prop up prices.

Now the world tin agreement is threatened as producers frantically try to isolate the price from chronic over-supply.

Year after year of production surpluses have done little to assist the success of commodity pacts, but part of the blame for their failure lies with producers themselves, who, says Mr. Fortin, have not always been able or willing to present a common front.

Chile, for example, which relies heavily for its foreign income on its copper exports, believes it should capitalise on its lower production costs by trying to win as many new markets as possible away from competitors like the U.S. and Zambia.

Also, developing nations like Brazil and India have diversified away from reliance on commodities, and their large industrial sectors are now big users of raw commodities too. They have little interest in seeing prices rise too steeply.

U.S. begins using social security fund to pay bills

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Treasury began dipping into the huge Social Security Trust Fund Saturday to pay its bills as Congress failed to muster enough backing to increase the federal debt ceiling to \$1,800 billion.

In what was described as a bookkeeping exercise, the Treasury transferred \$17 billion out of the trust fund and two other federal pension accounts to pay the government's bills.

The action, which allows the United States to cover November cheques mailed to some 36 million social security beneficiaries, became necessary when Congress, meeting late into the night, was unable to resolve the politically charged debt ceiling issue.

The Democrat-controlled House of Representatives passed a stop-gap bill Friday giving the Treasury borrowing authority for five days to avoid using the social security funds.

After hours of backstage debate and attempts at reconciliation, the Senate passed a different bill early Saturday giving the Treasury temporary borrowing authority.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, NOV. 4, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until noon you have a chance to get whatever is of basic importance in your life worked out in a sensible fashion. Do something which shows your creative and romantic ideas.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Find out what your family desires and help them to gain their goals. Later, do whatever will improve your own talents.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get into career activities early and make real progress during the day hours. Be happy at home this evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study new outlets that can be more lucrative, and then go to the right sources for information you need.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get up early and improve your appearance. Study your practical goals and how to achieve them.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Study into that new plan that can help you to gain your aims more quickly and easily and then discuss it with higher-ups.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more inventive in going after your aims and they are easily attained. Take it easy tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Contact someone who can give you their support, and tonight join with them in some social outlet. State your ambitions clearly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can understand how to get ahead faster through new activities and outlets. You will gain prestige this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try to appreciate your mate's best qualities and then you can handle your best interests more efficiently.

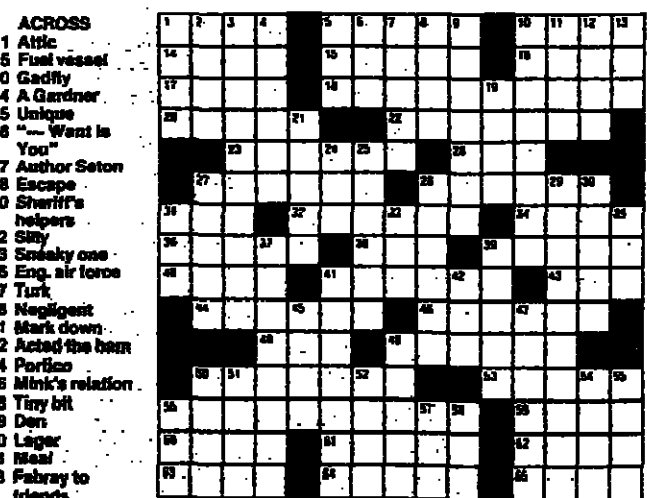
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get ideas operating which will improve your public image. The evening can be fun with your loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study information that can help you to improve routines in the morning, and later get your outside contacts improved.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan time to have fun during spare moments. Take your mate out to a new, charming place and add some spark to your romance.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have much ability at putting ideas or products across and should have the education slanted along lines where such qualities are a prerequisite. One who can soon become a valuable member of the family. Your progeny could easily head a big company in adulthood.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank Geary



- ACROSS
1. Little
 2. Fast wicket
 3. Gently
 4. A Gardner
 5. Unique
 6. West is
 7. You
 8. Author Seton
 9. Escape
 10. Helpless
 11. Sisy
 12. Sleazy one
 13. Fine, air force
 14. Turf
 15. Negligent
 16. Black down
 17. Aided the best
 18. Porfino
 19. Min's relation
 20. Tiny bit
 21. Den
 22. Lager
 23. Ideal
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 25. Adorned
 26. Browns bread
 27. Root
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Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



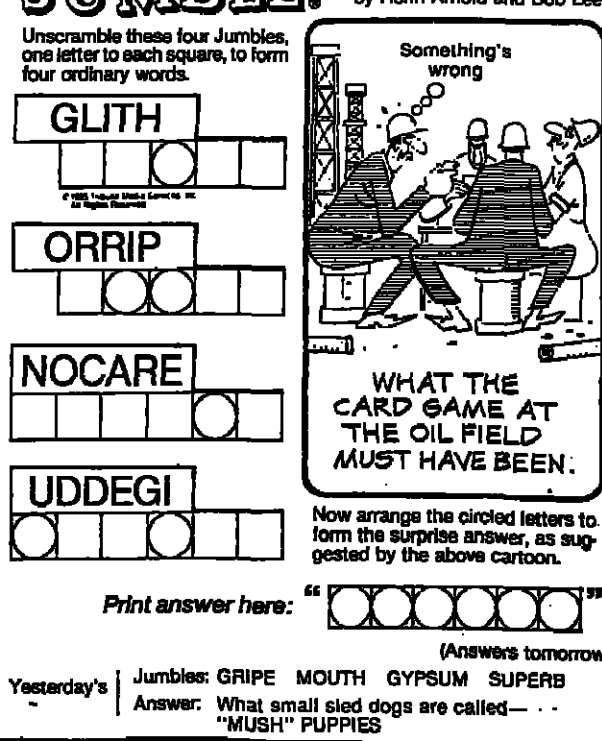
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Pravda: Reagan trying to divert attention from arms control talks

Reagan accepts 50 per cent cut in missiles

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Daily Pravda said Sunday President Reagan was trying to divert attention from arms control, a day before Secretary of State George Shultz arrives to consult the Kremlin on the agenda for the superpower summit.

Keeping up a barrage of negative Soviet comment on Mr. Reagan's latest statements, Pravda said the president was trying to "push aside the main issue" of arms control by stressing regional problems.

Mr. Reagan has said a major issue at the Geneva summit on Nov. 19-20 with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would be regional conflicts involving Soviet-backed regimes.

Last month in a speech to the United Nations, Mr. Reagan said that resolving conflicts in Ethiopia, Angola, Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Kampuchea held the key to arms control.

He also said the Geneva summit would focus on a range of topics affecting the U.S.-Soviet relationship.

"The president's regional initiative... exposes efforts to divert the main problem of limiting nuclear weapons and the non-militarisation of space into a distant corner, to drown it in discussions about other questions," Pravda said.

Mr. Shultz, who is to meet Mr. Gorbachev and other Kremlin officials over the next two days, played arms control second on a list of

goals for the summit at a news conference on Friday.

First on the list, he said, was stopping countries expanding their influence through armed intervention and subversion.

Pravda also renewed criticism of Mr. Reagan's latest arms proposals, announced last Thursday and currently being discussed at arms talks in Geneva. Mr. Reagan's proposal came a month after Mr. Gorbachev presented a new Soviet plan for arms cuts.

The newspaper said the U.S. proposal, which has not been revealed in detail, appeared to be nothing more than the old U.S. position in new wrapping and noted that Mr. Reagan was still refusing to drop his plans for a "Star Wars" space missile defence, the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

The Soviet media was silent Sunday on Mr. Reagan's statement Saturday that he accepted the concept of a 50 per cent cut in long-range offensive weapons, the core of Moscow's proposal.

The president indicated that the two sides differed on the issue of what systems to cut. He made no suggestion of conceding Moscow's chief demand, that he drop "Star Wars."

Wars."

Moscow's chief expert on U.S.-Soviet relations, Georgy Arbatov, said on television Saturday night that Washington's reaction to the Kremlin's arms initiatives had been "utterly negative."

"The U.S. stand with regard to all that is connected with Soviet-American relations, with the curbing of the arms race, has begun to toughen and to get even worse than before," he said in a discussion programme.

Mr. Arbatov said Washington appeared to be trying to turn the summit "into a sort of trial" by emphasising conflicts where Soviet interests are involved.

Mr. Shultz, who was last in Moscow for the funeral of President Konstantin Chernenko in March, said the summit should give a political impulse to arms control negotiations in Geneva.

The secretary of state, who is accompanied by National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and arms adviser Paul Nitze, is due to confer with Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze after his arrival Monday. He is to meet Mr. Gorbachev on Tuesday.

Mr. Shultz's visit is expected to coincide with the publication of a rare interview Mr. Reagan gave last week to Soviet journalists.

President Reagan has stated publicly for the first time that the United States accepts the idea of a 50 per cent reduction in offensive nuclear missiles as proposed by the Soviet Union.

The United States had accepted the concept of the 50 per cent reduction in private but questioned specifics of the Soviet proposal made in September about how such a cutback would be made.

Mr. Reagan, in a radio address Saturday from the presidential retreat in Camp David, Maryland, noted that his administration had been pushing during the past three years for a cut of roughly half the missiles.

"We therefore have accepted the 50 per cent reduction proposed by the Soviets, and at the same time we are making it clear that, if we are to have a safer and more stable world, reductions must be applied to systems which are comparable and especially to those that would give either side a destabilising first-strike advantage," he said.

The Soviet proposal, as drafted, has caused concern among Reagan strategists who argued that a 50 per cent reduction would leave virtually all Soviet heavy missiles, capable of knocking out U.S. missile silos, in Moscow's arsenal.

Queen Elizabeth to unveil government programme

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth will unveil the government's legislative programme for the coming year this week amid indications that Britain's ruling Conservative Party is winning back support.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is reported to have headed advice from more cautious ministerial colleagues and toned down the right-wing radicalism that has been the hallmark of her government.

Some cabinet members believe that with about two years of her second term to run Mrs. Thatcher should build on the government's achievements so far.

The Queen opens the new session by reading the speech — written by the prime minister — from the throne of the House of Lords.

Recent polls indicate the government may have won back some of the popularity lost during a contentious parliamentary year that ended in July.

After being in third place behind the opposition Labour and Alliance parties, the Conservatives now have a narrow lead, according to a poll published in the Sunday Times newspaper. It gives the ruling party 38 per cent, compared with 36 per cent for Labour and 25 per cent for the Alliance.

The poll also showed law and order in the wake of serious inner-city rioting in various parts of Britain has become a major public concern.

The Queen's speech on Wednesday will set out government plans for a new public order law that would give the police increased powers to deal with potential trouble on the streets.

Separate legislation was also likely to be announced to clamp down harder on drug traffickers, including powers to strip them of their assets.

The government was expected to continue its extensive programme of selling state-owned industries by announcing the privatisation of British gas and the British Airways Authority which administers major airports.

U.S. TV networks protest against S. African ban

NEW YORK (R) — Three major U.S. television networks protested strongly to the South African government over measures limiting news coverage in areas of unrest and called for their cancellation.

Lawrence Grossman, NBC news president, in a message to President P.W. Botha said the prohibitions on news coverage "is mindless of the totalitarian restrictions imposed by the Communist block countries and in other dictatorships."

"We want to interview you and other government leaders so that the official policies of South Africa are accurately represented," Mr. Grossman said, adding "we insist on the right to cover the opposing views, and the conflicts that arise when the opposition clashes with government policy."

American Broadcasting Corporation News President Roone Arledge said in his statement to Law and Order Minister Louis Le Grange: "This act of censorship goes far beyond what is needed to protect journalists in areas of unrest."

"We urge you to rescind the ban and restore the respect your government had previously shown to free expression."

And CBS news President Edward Joyce said in a message to Mr. Botha "clearly, these measures are so restrictive that our people will be, in effect, denied the capability of doing their job."

The executive editor of the New York Times, A.M. Rosenthal, criticised the restrictions as an apparent attempt "to create a wall around the trouble spots in the country."

He added that everyone, including the government, would suffer.

"The New York Times will go about its business of collecting as much information as it can and pass it on to its readers," he said in a statement.

South African opposition leader Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert said Sunday that the ban on television crews reporting from South Africa's trouble spots "will create anxiety and confusion."

"South Africans will know less of what the actual conditions are and what is actually happening — which creates a climate of anxiety and confusion," he told a press conference.

Mr. Slabbert, leader of the Pro-

gressive Federal Party, was commenting on the Pretoria government's ban on picture coverage of racial unrest in areas under emergency rule.

Mr. Slabbert, whose party holds 28 seats in the 178-member white chamber of parliament, is on a three-day visit to Australia for talks with Prime Minister Bob Hawke and opposition leader John Howard.

He said he opposed economic sanctions against South Africa. "They are certainly not going to have any immediate effect inside South Africa in so far as getting rid of apartheid is concerned," he said.

In South Africa a leading black newspaper accusing the authorities of unleashing their most serious attack yet on press freedom.

Britain reacted immediately, saying it was very disturbed at the curbs.

Within South Africa, Foreign correspondents declared the curbs was the beginning of a slide to a totally controlled press.

City Press, a black newspaper, said in its Sunday edition: "South Africa wakes up to the start of what is probably the darkest period since the World War II. The government has launched its most severe assault on the freedom of the press."

The media crackdown came as police reported a rare gun battle with blacks in Soweto near Johannesburg.

A patrol in Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township, fired shotguns after three shots were fired at troops, a spokesman said.

City Press Editor Percy Joboza said blacks feared that harsh action by the security forces would follow the media clampdown.

"The press has been told to see no evil and hear no evil and the written press is under pressure to write no evil either," he said. In London, fireworks, eggs, paintings and placards showed police as tens of thousands marched to South Africa's embassy in London in a protest rally.

At least 114 people were arrested Saturday night as police charged an unruly section of what organisers said was Britain's biggest-ever anti-apartheid rally.

Although most of the marchers were peaceful, 10 policemen were injured as an angry group attacked the heavily-guarded mission.

Mr. Slabbert, leader of the Pro-



Diana gets a smack from a toddler

MELBOURNE (R) — A determined two-year-old girl ignored a policeman's warning and rushed to embrace Princess Diana Sunday, giving the smiling princess a kiss as the watching crowd applauded. Blonde, curly-haired Jane Brewer ducked under a dividing chain without warning as Prince Charles and his wife arrived at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral for a service on the eighth day of their Australian tour. The toddler simply said "no" when a policeman asked her to move back, her surprised and slightly embarrassed mother said after the incident. "I didn't even know she knew who she was waiting for," Susan Brewer told reporters. As the tot clutched her legs, Diana, dressed in a red and white spotted silk dress, red summer coat and wide-brimmed red and white hat, bent to offer her cheek for a kiss as the crowd applauded.

Princess Diana, 31, was seen smiling and laughing as she was kissed by the toddler.

The toddler, who was not named, was seen embracing the princess as she walked down the aisle of the cathedral.

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Troops ring U.S. embassy in Kabul

SHANNON, Ireland (R) — The U.S. embassy in Kabul has been ringed by Afghan soldiers and some Soviet troops with armoured personnel carriers after a Soviet soldier fled into the building, American Secretary of State George Shultz and other Washington officials have said.

Mr. Shultz, en route to Helsinki and Moscow, told reporters the United States had protested over Soviet and Afghan pressure on the embassy after the soldier fled into the building two days ago.

Mr. Shultz said the embassy had been "more or less surrounded."

lit by floodlights and was without outside electricity.

U.S. officials said the embassy was ringed by the Afghan and Soviet troops.

Mr. Shultz, whose plane stopped in Shannon for refuelling, said U.S. officials wanted to act in the Soviet soldier's best interests and were talking to him "about what the options are that he has."

The soldier, a 19-year-old private, who was a guard at Radio Kabul opposite the embassy, darted into the embassy when its gates were opened and has refused to be interviewed by Soviet authorities.

Mr. Shultz said.

An official travelling with Mr. Shultz quoted the soldier as saying, "I don't like this war. I want to go home."

The official said protests had been lodged against the embassy's "intimidation" with Soviet and Afghan authorities in Kabul and with Soviet officials in Washington and Moscow.

The incident came as Mr. Shultz prepared for talks next week with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the run-up to the Nov. 19-20 summit between Mr. Gorbachev and President Reagan.



Benazir Bhutto

Bhutto prefers exile

KARACHI (R) — Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto would prefer to live in exile abroad until martial law in Pakistan is lifted, supporters said Sunday.

President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq's military government has promised to end martial law by Dec. 31.

Members of Bhutto's banned Pakistan People's Party (PPP) who met her last week told Reuters she would like to remain in self-exile in Europe until military rule ends.

She said the authorities would free Ms. Bhutto from house arrest sometime Sunday night and put her on an early morning flight for Zurich, Switzerland.

She is due to appear before a French magistrate on Wednesday at an inquiry into the death of her younger brother Shah Nawaz in Cannes in July.

Gen. Zia imposed martial law when he seized power in 1977 in a coup which toppled Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

"Benazir will return to Pakistan like a storm after the lifting of martial law," a PPP leader said.

She was put under house arrest in August after large crowds of supporters greeted her return from 19 months in exile in Europe for the burial of Shah Nawaz.

She went to Europe in January 1984 when the authorities freed her from 34 months in detention so that she could seek treatment for an ear ailment.

India, China resume border talks today

NEW DELHI (R) — India and China resume talks Monday on their 23-year-old border dispute with hopes high of a breakthrough over an issue which has hampered relations between the world's two most populous nations.

A 13-member Chinese team led by Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Shuqun was due in Delhi for the week-long talks, 14 months after the last meeting in Peking.

Prospects of a breakthrough at the sixth round of talks have risen since a meeting last month at the United Nations between Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang and

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

A statement after the talks said the border issue "was not an insurmountable problem."

Mr. Gandhi told a press conference on his return from overseas one week ago that he expected progress in the latest discussions. "Our relations will definitely improve," he said.

The border dispute triggered a war between India and China in 1962, leading to a cut in diplomatic ties until 1976.

The negotiations, which started in 1981, involve claims by the two countries to thousands of

miles of Himalayan territory before and after the war.

India has rejected Chinese proposals that the two nations should trade off their claims.

A shadow was briefly cast over the talks when press reports last month quoted Indian Army Chief of Staff Gen. Arun Vaidya as saying that Pakistan planned to test a nuclear weapon in China.

The Chinese embassy, in a rare statement, denied the Indian general's charge and said that irresponsible reporting could harm relations between the two countries.

Sikh gunmen still at large in Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists are still at large in the Indian capital and could strike again at any time, New Delhi Police Commissioner Ved Marwah said Sunday.

Mr. Marwah said that in view of the threat there were no plans in the foreseeable future to ease strict security around public figures like Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his cabinet ministers.

"Some of the terrorists who had struck in New Delhi... are still at large. They could strike at any time even if they have kept quiet for the past several weeks," Mr. Marwah told reporters.

Since New Delhi was hit by an extremist bomb blitz last May in which more than 80 people were killed, the scale of attacks in the capital had died down to sporadic incidents.

Mr. Marwah said that in a bid to stamp out rising petty crime like

robberies foot patrols would be increased in New Delhi so that police became more familiar with localities.

In Punjab state, scene of most extremist attacks, a senior Sikh politician told reporters there was little support for guerrillas wanting a separate Sikh nation known as "Khalistan."

Punjab Finance Minister Balwant Singh said his ruling Akali Dal Party believed the future of Sikhs lay in a united India.

Mr. Marwah claimed to have identified a terrorist gang responsible for the recent killings of two prominent members of Mr. Gandhi's governing Congress Party.

However, he declined to name the group or say whether it had ties to Sikh terrorists.

Lalit Maken, a national lawmaker, his wife and a party worker were shot dead in July by two

gunmen outside their home in the Indian capital. A month later, a city councillor, Arjun Dass, was killed by three gunmen who attacked his office.

Police have said they suspected the killers of both cases to be Sikh terrorists, but they have not found the assassins.

Mr. Marwah said he could not reveal the names of the members of the alleged gang because "we hope to nab them soon."

The two slain politicians were among 16 Congress Party officials named by civil rights organisations as instigating anti-Sikh riots that followed Mrs. Gandhi's assassination.

Rajiv Gandhi, said to be on a hit-list of Sikh terrorists, almost always wears a bullet-proof vest and is guarded by special commandos whenever he appears in public.

Britain reportedly studying to build new nuclear missile

LONDON (R) — Britain is studying the possibility of building a nuclear-tipped missile to replace its present stockpile of atomic bombs, the Observer newspaper said Sunday.

The Sunday paper, quoting NATO sources, said in an early edition that the missile, with a range of up to 400 kilometres, could be launched from an aircraft at a safe distance from enemy positions.

It said Britain was abandoning the concept of manned bombers flying to enemy positions to drop their bombs.

The study by Britain's Ministry of Defence was prompted by assumptions that Soviet Bloc countries would continue to improve their air defences against aircraft carrying nuclear bombs, according to the paper.

A ministry spokesman said he had no information about the

study.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government is pledged to modernise Britain's nuclear forces and it intends to replace a stockpile of sea-borne Polaris missiles with the new generations Trident system.

"It is envisaged that the missile would be pre-programmed to take a circuitous route to its target, which would make it technically an air-launched cruise missile," the Observer said.

It said the new missile would be launched from an aircraft flying over friendly Western European countries.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's sources described the study as futuristic, the paper said.

British defence contractors say that cruise technologies are within their capabilities and aero-engine makers British Aerospace has a cruise research programme.

Former employee charges security breaches at U.K. spy centre

WASHINGTON (R) — Security at Britain's top secret communications spy agency was so lax over a 30-year period that secrets were routinely lost or fell into Soviet hands, according to a former employee quoted here.

Top U.S. and British secrets said to have been compromised through negligence include a system to detect Soviet ballistic missile submarines, passed to Moscow by a spy, and codes whose loss might have led to the death of U.S. soldiers in Vietnam.

The Washington Post newspaper said the allegations by Jock Kane, who retired from the British Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in 1978, were contained in a manuscript that had been suppressed under Britain's Official Secrets Act.

Kane's book GCHQ: The Negative Asset was scheduled for publication in Britain in June 1984 but the Guardian newspaper reported in April that a government injunction blocked it.

The Guardian also said that a television programme in which Kane voiced similar charges had been kept off air four years earlier by the body controlling commercial TV.

The Washington Post said special branch agents from Scotland Yard travelled to New York last year to retrieve a copy of Kane's book submitted to a New York publisher.

It said many charges made by Kane, 61, who worked at GCHQ for 30 years, involved security routine, such as photocopying in top-secret areas and slack inventory control over U.S. and British military code books and encoding equipment.

"Kane's principal allegation is that widespread negligence in GCHQ created conditions in which confessed spy Geoffrey Prime, with little difficulty, spirited out thousands of top-secret GCHQ material relating to the most sensitive spy satellite projects undertaken by the United States and Britain during the 1970s," the Post said.

Prime, a Russian linguist, confessed his espionage when arrested in 1982 for child molestation after leaving GCHQ.

According to Kane's manuscript, Prime compromised a sensitive detection system used to locate Soviet ballistic missile submarines when they surface to contact their bases.

French minister chats with jailed agents in Auckland

PARIS (R) — French Defence Minister Paul Juiles has spoken by telephone to two secret agents jailed in New Zealand on murder and sabotage charges and assured them of his personal interest in their case.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said Mr. Juiles had a long chat with Captain Dominique Prieur and Maj. Alain Mafart who are due to appear in court Monday in connection with the sinking of the nuclear protest vessel Rainbow Warrior last July.

"Paul Juiles wanted both of them to know that the French government was going to great lengths to act in their best interests," the spokesman said.

He said Mr. Juiles told Mafart and Prieur he was taking a personal interest in their plight and the way they were being treated. But he gave no details of what spe-

cific actions, if any, France would take on their behalf.

Mr. Juiles took over as minister when his predecessor, Charles Hernu, was forced to resign after disclosures of French official involvement in the sabotage of the Greenpeace protest movement's flagship and the killing of a crewman on July 10.

Tight security will ring a specially-rebuilt courtroom as the hearing opens against the two French secret agents.